

# Distinguished Nevadan Nomination Form

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**Deadline: December 31**

**Please send all nominations to:**

**Scott G. Wasserman, Chief Executive Officer & Special Counsel  
Board of Regents  
2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512  
e-mail: Scott\_Wasserman@nshe.nevada.edu Fax: (775) 327-5049**

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1. Salutation: ☒ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr.

2. Nominee's Name *(please ensure correct spelling)*:

Gus "Billy" W. Flangas

3. Nominee's Mailing Address:

4. Nominee's Phone Number: Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Home: \_\_\_\_\_ 0

5. Employment History *(attach additional material if necessary)*:

Please see Exhibit "A"

6. Educational Background *(attach additional material if necessary):*

Please see Exhibit "B"

7. Reasons for Nomination: *(Please include outstanding accomplishments, achievements, and contributions to Nevada and its people. Please be specific and provide considerable detail. You may attach additional pages if necessary.)*

Please see Exhibit "C"

8. Other NSHE Awards *(please list other awards this individual has received):*

None

9. Nominated by Regent: MARK W. DOUBRAVA

# **EXHIBIT “A”**

## **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

### **MILITARY SERVICE**

Served as a Commissioned Officer and Helicopter Pilot in the United States Army from 1980 to 1990. Selected for promotion to Major in 1989. Service highlights:

- 1980-1982:** Attended the Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and Flight School at Fort Rucker, Alabama.
- 1982-1986:** Assigned with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fulda, West Germany, along the East/West German Border. Commanded an Air Cavalry unit, with the sensitive peacetime mission of border surveillance. Personally responsible for 10 aircraft and over 45 pilots and support personnel. Served as the Squadron Operations and Plans Officer, responsible for the operations, planning, training, and resource allocation of a 70 aircraft, 1,000 man Aviation Squadron. Served as an Aeroscout Commander responsible for 16 aircraft and over 50 pilots and support personnel. Also served as Fuel and Ammunition Platoon Leader.
- 1986-1989:** Assigned to the U.S. Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Handpicked by the Aviation Branch to prepare officers (Captains and above) for future positions of leadership (as Commanders) and positions of increased responsibilities. Taught leadership, oral and written communication skills, tactics, strategy, logistics, military history, and physical fitness.
- 1989-1990:** Assigned with Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC), based out of Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas. Handpicked by the Department of the Army to supervise, teach, train, evaluate, and prepare U.S. Army Aviation units to operate in a combat environment. Was involved personally with the training and evaluation of over 4,000 pilots and support personnel.

### **PROFESSIONAL**

- 2014-Present:** Attorney and 50% Equity Holder in the Flangas Dalacas Law Group. Personal practice concentrates primarily in the areas of Civil Litigation, Complex Civil Litigation, Corporate Law, Real Estate Law, Appellate Work, Estate Planning, and Business Law.
- 2002-2014:** Attorney and 50% Equity Holder in the Flangas McMillan Law Group. Personal practice concentrates primarily in the areas of Civil Litigation, Complex Civil Litigation, Corporate Law, Real Estate Law, Appellate Work, Estate Planning, and Business Law.
- 2001-2002:** Attorney and 100% Equity Holder in the Flangas Law Group. Personal practice concentrated primarily in the areas of Civil Litigation, Complex Civil Litigation, Corporate Law, Real Estate Law, Appellate Work, Estate Planning, and Business Law.
- 2000-2001:** Attorney and 50% Equity Holder in Swanson-Flangas & Associates, LLC. Personal practice concentrated primarily in the areas of Civil Litigation, Complex Civil Litigation,

Corporate Law, Real Estate Law, Appellate Work and Business Law.

**1993-2000:** Attorney and 100% Equity Holder in the Law Offices of Gus W. Flangas. Practice concentrated primarily in the areas of Civil Litigation, Criminal Law, Real Estate Law, Appellate Work, Family Law and Business Law.

# **EXHIBIT “B”**

## **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

### **CIVILIAN EDUCATION**

Graduate of Ed W. Clark High School, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1975.

University of Nevada at Reno  
Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1980

University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Arkansas  
Master of Science, Operations Management, 1990.

McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, California  
Juris Doctor, 1993.

### **MILITARY EDUCATION**

United States Army Paratrooper School (Airborne), Ft. Benning, GA, 1978.

ROTC Distinguished Graduate, University of Nevada Reno, 1980.

Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Ft. Sill, OK, 1981.

Field Artillery Target Acquisition Survey Officer Course, Ft. Sill, OK, 1981.

Rotary Wing Aviation Course, United States Army Aviation Center, Ft. Rucker, AL, 1982.

Advanced Aircraft Transition Course, United States Army Aviation Center, Ft. Rucker, AL, 1982.

Commander's Course, West Germany, 1985.

U.S. Army Aviation Officer Advanced Course, United State Army Aviation Center, Ft. Rucker, AL, 1987.

U.S. Army Aviation Instructor Training Course, United State Army Aviation Center, Ft. Rucker, AL, 1987.

U.S. Army Air Assault School, Ft. Rucker, AL, 1988.

U.S. Army Combined Arms Service Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth, KS, 1988.

# **EXHIBIT “C”**



## **REASONS FOR NOMINATION**

**GUS "BILLY" W. FLANGAS** is a native Nevadan born in Ely, Nevada and raised in Las Vegas. His family first moved to Las Vegas in early 1958 when he was less than a year old. Since then, his family has maintained strong roots and involvement in the community. After serving ten years in the military and graduating from law school, Gus returned to Las Vegas in 1993 to practice law. Since then, he has been very active in and has contributed greatly to the community. Some of his contributions and the reasons for his nomination as Distinguished Nevadan follow.

Gus has served as a Commissioner on the City of Las Vegas Planning Commission since 2009. The Planning Commission makes recommendations to the Las Vegas City Council on the City's Master Plan, zoning matters and other related issues, and makes final decisions on subdivision maps. Gus served as the Vice-Chairman of the Commission in 2012 and has been the Chairman of Commission for the last two years, since the beginning of 2013.

Gus has served on the Board of Directors for Goodwill of Southern Nevada for over 14 years. Goodwill is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide education, employment and training for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment to maximize the quality of life for each individual served. It is an innovative and sustainable social enterprise that turns donations of gently used goods into new jobs and new careers for the members of our local community. Gus is presently on the Executive Board for Goodwill and is also Chairman of the Goodwill Board of Directors Governance Committee. Gus also donates his legal services and expertise to Goodwill. Gus has been intimately involved in the growth and sustainability of Goodwill and has played an integral part in the success of Goodwill. During Gus's tenure on the Goodwill Board, Goodwill has grown from a relatively small charity into a very large non-profit venture that in 2014 alone, had gross revenues of over \$30.5 million, employed 700 full time employees and put over 2,350 people to work here in Las Vegas. In addition, Goodwill now has 14 stores in the Las Vegas area that support its efforts. Gus was named "Humanitarian of the Year" by Goodwill in 2004.

Gus has been the Chairman of the Greek Food Festival, off and on for over 14 different years. The Festival is a large three-four day cultural event that takes place every September and is one of the largest charitable events of its kind in Southern Nevada. It is a monumental undertaking that takes an enormous amount of Gus's time and efforts over the course of a year to make it happen. Running the Festival would be a full time job in of itself for most people. It is a unique family friendly event that provides people a diverse experience on the grounds of St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church. The Festival has been an important part of the Las Vegas experience and cultural scene for over 41 years. Under Gus's leadership and direction, the Festival attracts over 23,000 to 30,000 visitors each year and has become an important mainstay in Las Vegas.

In conjunction with the Festival, Gus has personally put together a related charitable event involving a Torch Run that over time has raised monies for several charities, including Goodwill and the Boys and Girls Club. With this event, he has also raised monies for a Nevada National Guard unit that sustained casualties in Afghanistan, and more recently, raised monies for The Wounded Warrior Project.

Gus has also served on the Board of Directors for St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox

Church for many years, and was president of the Church for four consecutive years. During his time as President, Gus was instrumental in the construction of the Church's Community Center and classroom complex that has become an important focal point for the Greek and other Orthodox communities in Southern Nevada.

Gus's other contributions include his involvement in several military related organizations, including the Blackhorse Association, a national military related organization for active and former United States Calvary soldiers. He also has served on the Advisory Board for the Boys and Girls Club of Southern Nevada for three years. In addition, he has coached youth baseball, basketball, football and soccer for over ten years. He has also assisted many people who have limited resources, with their legal issues on a pro-bono basis without fanfare or acknowledgment. He has also advised members of the White Pine County Commission on water issues related to the proposed water pipeline coming out the Great Basin area.

One of Gus's more important contributions to the community was his work with the Physician's Task Force back in 2002. In 2002, the premiums for medical malpractice insurance in Nevada were skyrocketing, which in turn, caused many physicians to leave because they could no longer afford to continue practicing in Nevada. An unintended consequence of this was the unfortunate closure of the UMC Trauma Center. The Trauma Center was closed due to the medical malpractice risk that private practice Orthopaedic Surgeons faced by taking call at UMC. Gus was instrumental in getting the Trauma Center reopened by convincing the private practice Orthopaedic Surgeons to return. He accomplished this by crafting a solution involving contracts with UMC that allowed them to take call at the Trauma Center without the inherent malpractice risk. During the course of this situation with the Trauma Center, Former Governor Michael O'Callaghan wrote in his column in the Las Vegas Sun, Gus is a "Nevada native who has few, if any, peers as a soldier and attorney . . ." In working with the Physician's Task Force, Gus was also instrumental in getting the Governor to call a Special Session of the Legislature to address the medical malpractice issues to help stem the outflow of doctors from Nevada. In his efforts on behalf of the Physicians, Gus contributed significantly to the legislation that was eventually enacted during the Special Session to help solve the issues.

Professionally, Gus has built and maintains a successful law practice. His firm, the Flangas Dalacas Law Group formerly known as the Flangas McMillan Law Group, enjoys a good strong reputation in Las Vegas and has been a solid mainstay in the Nevada legal community for many years. Gus had a very successful military career prior to becoming a lawyer. Gus served in the United States Army for 10 years and enjoyed a very diverse and rewarding experience as a Commissioned Officer and Attack Helicopter Pilot. Gus was selected for promotion to Major in 1989. His awards and badges include two Meritorious Service Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, three Army Achievement Medals, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Ribbon, Airborne Wings (Parachutist Badge), Senior Army Aviator Wings, and Air Assault Wings.

Personally, Gus is married to Tamara K. Flangas of Leavenworth, Kansas. They have three sons and two daughters, William G. Flangas, age 31, Alexander Michael Flangas, age 24, Andrew Thomas Flangas, age 20, Aleni Malia Flangas, age 9, and Amalia Marilyn Flangas, age 7. William is a graduate of UNR, and Alexander and Andrew are both presently students at UNR.

It is under this backdrop of Gus's accomplishments and efforts that I sincerely and strongly nominate him for Distinguished Nevadan.