



MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

CINC Lt Col Marlon Ruiz, USAF (Ret)

**Commander in Chief & Chief Executive Officer,
The Military Order of the World Wars, Inc®**

Marlon Ruiz of Tucson, Arizona, was elected the 94th Commander-in-Chief of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) on 15 August 2026 during the Order's National Convention in San Antonio, Texas.

As Commander in Chief, Ruiz pledged to “continue to modernize the Order,” enrich and enhance the personal growth of MOWW Companions, and strengthen the Order's impactful outreach programs.

MOWW's outreach programs are the cornerstone of the Order's service to communities across the nation. Through these programs, Companions put MOWW's core values into action—developing future leaders, promoting patriotism and civic responsibility, recognizing service and achievement, and supporting veterans and their communities. These efforts embody the enduring spirit of MOWW's motto: “It Is Nobler to Serve Than to Be Served.”

Lt Col Marlon Ruiz is a 27-year Air Force veteran who flew Boeing B-52Gs and Hs, achieving Master Bombardier, Chief of Bomber Training Flight during Operation DESERT SHIELD, and bomber combat mission commander during Operation DESERT STORM. After the first Gulf War, he was assigned to Headquarters Twelfth Air Force as its Latin America Program Manager, where he also served in multiple Joint USAF, USSOUTHCOM, and US Government interagency deployed assignments. He served a critical role in military and law enforcement counternarcotics operations, ensuring his deployed team executed all tasks and operations effectively and safely. Assignments included serving as a Lockheed P-3 Orion aircrew member with US Customs and Border Protection's ELINT and HUMINT drug smuggling surveillance tracking mission over Central and South America coastline and Amazon jungle illegal narcotics trafficking activities, serving as an in-country translator and negotiator, to include anti-FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia) terrorist operations. Colonel Ruiz has two Bachelors of Education degrees and a master's degree in aviation business administration and management. He was a senior AFJROTC academic instructor with Nogales High School in southern Arizona and a defense contractor with C2 Technologies, Inc., an internationally recognized leader in education and immersive training. He serves as a Commissioner with the Tucson Mayor's Office Veterans Affairs Committee. Since joining MOWW in 2008, Colonel Ruiz served in every MOWW elected and appointed position of responsibility, including three terms as Vice Commander-in-Chief. He most recently concluded his second term as Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief. ★

