



JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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Mr. Howard S. High President



Howard High was elected President of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) in February 2024. As President, he focuses on creating and continuing programs that will likely meet the goals of JAVA's strategic plan.

Professionally, Mr. High currently serves as the Senior Security Advisor as a civilian with the U.S. Army CECOM G2 (Intelligence and Security). Previously, Mr. High served in the U.S. Army as an enlisted soldier and officer. He graduated with honors from the Russian Basic Course at the Defense Language Institute in Monterrey, California, followed by the National Security Agency's "Le Fox" Russian Extended Course. Having been awarded an ROTC Scholarship, he attended the University of California at Los Angeles, graduating with a bachelor's degree in Slavic Languages and Literature, specializing in the Russian language. He received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in June 1981.

Subsequently, he served in various capacities as an intelligence and counterintelligence officer, including a tour as commander of a headquarters company in a military intelligence battalion. Selected as a foreign area officer, he attended the University of Kansas and graduated with a master's degree in Russian and East European Studies. In 1994, Mr. High transferred from active-duty service to the Individual Ready Reserve.

Mr. High was born to a Japanese mother and an American father in Yokohama, Japan. At age six, the family moved to the United States. Growing up in the Los Angeles area, California, he was involved in many Japanese cultural and athletic organizations, strengthening his respect for and pride in his Japanese heritage. Most notably, he has attained 7th dan (black belt) in Shindo Jinen Ryu (karate) and continues teaching karate classes and seminars internationally. He also teaches the traditional Japanese arts of iaijutsu and kenjutsu.

Mr. High is currently the Chairman of Japan Karate-Do Ryobu-Kai (JKR) International's Executive Council, providing leadership to promote and develop the art of Shindo Jinen Ryu worldwide. JKR maintains membership organizations on every continent except Antarctica.

Mr. High is married to Denise High, a Desert Storm veteran. He has three daughters and four grandchildren. In his spare time, Mr. High enjoys bicycling, videography/photography, and the study of history and languages.