



# News Release

**Military Officers Association of America**  
Southwest Virginia Chapter  
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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **MOAA SWVA Director Mike Leigh presented 2014 Virginia Small Business Veteran of the Year Award**

Commander Michael W. Leigh, USN (ret.) and President of OpX Solutions, LLC was awarded the 2014 Virginia Small Business Veteran of the Year. The award was presented on March 26 in Arlington, VA by Maria Contreras-Sweet, Administrator of the US Small Business Administration and member of President Obama's Cabinet.

Leigh is the founder and President of OpX Solutions, LLC. He began his military service in 1988 by joining the US Navy Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate program while still in college at Milwaukee School of Engineering. Following graduation, he earned his commission and served 10 years in the Navy. He left active duty in 1999 to begin a 13-year manufacturing career with General Electric, and continued to serve in the reserves. In 2001, he was recalled to active duty for 8 months in support of homeland security following the terrorist attacks on 9/11. He retired in 2008 and is a member of the Association of the U.S. Navy and is a Director with the Military Officers Association of America Southwest Virginia Chapter.

The Small Business Veteran of the Year award was established in 2000 to recognize veterans who have made a significant contribution to Virginia's economy through involvement in small business and who have made a significant difference in their communities by promoting a sense of duty and an appreciation of country, democracy, and freedom.



*Commander Michael W. Leigh, USN (ret.)*



*Photo left to right: Jody Keenan (State Director, VA SBDC), Susan Lee-Merrow (Assoc. State Director, Programs, VA SBDC), Maria Contreras-Sweet (Administrator, US SBA), Michael Leigh (President, OpX Solutions, LLC), Jennifer Leigh (Office Manager, OpX Solutions, LLC), Bart Smith (Director, Roanoke SBDC)*