

For Immediate Release

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General Norton A. Schwartz, USAF (Ret.) Elected New BENS President & CEO

(Washington, DC) – Business Executives for National Security (BENS) Chairman Bruce E. Mosler today announced that retired Air Force General Norton A. Schwartz has been elected as the next President and CEO of BENS. He will replace General Montgomery C. Meigs, US Army (Ret.), who will step down on July 22 after more than three years as BENS President and CEO.

“Gen. Schwartz has an exemplary record of strong leadership and success on behalf of our nation,” says Mosler. “As Air Force Chief of Staff, his tenure was marked by a number of innovations that reflect BENS’ mission and the priorities of our members. We’re thrilled to have him join us as we continue advancing America’s national security interests.”

Gen. Schwartz retired as the 19th Chief of Staff of the US Air Force (CSAF) on Oct. 1, 2012 after serving more than 39 years in the Air Force. A graduate of the US Air Force Academy, Gen. Schwartz began his service as a pilot with the Saigon airlift in 1975, and was the first CSAF who piloted special operations transport planes and helicopters as a primary discipline. He made a number of innovations during his time as Chief, including shifting emphasis from traditional aircraft to remotely piloted vehicle missions and strengthening execution and oversight of nuclear deterrence activities.

“I have deep admiration for organizations like BENS that have advocated for commonsense solutions to America’s national security needs,” says Schwartz. “As we look for new ways to serve our country, Suzie and I are thrilled to join BENS so we can bolster the relationship between those with business know-how and America’s national security enterprise through sound public policy.”

Prior to his appointment as CSAF in 2008, Gen. Schwartz was Commander of the United States Transportation Command (2005-2008), where he managed the Pentagon’s global air, land and sea transportation logistics and elements of the supply chain. Gen. Schwartz also served as Director for Operations and Director of the Joint Staff (2002-2005), and during the 1991 Gulf War helped lead a joint special operations task force. Gen. Schwartz has received numerous awards, including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and many other awards honoring his exceptional military service. He and his wife, Suzie, reside in Arlington, VA, and are actively involved in organizations serving current military members, veterans and their families.

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Founded in 1982, BENS is a nationwide, non-partisan organization which applies best business practices to develop, for government officials, solutions to our nation’s most challenging problems in national security, particularly in defense and homeland security. For more information, please visit: www.bens.org.