



Kevin M. Schmiegel

Executive Director, Hiring Our Heroes Vice President, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Kevin M. Schmiegel is vice president at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and executive director of the Hiring Our Heroes program.

In March 2011, Schmiegel founded *Hiring Our Heroes*, a nationwide initiative to help veterans and military spouses find meaningful employment in hundreds of cities across America. In leading the program, Schmiegel is responsible for managing public and private-sector partnerships to help veterans and their families transition from military service to the private sector. The program's objective is to create an environment in which thousands of veterans and military spouses can find jobs in their local communities.

Before assuming his current position in 2009, he was an executive director and advisor to the president and CEO, Tom Donohue. In this role, his responsibilities included program integration, strategy and process development and liaison to the Department of Defense and other government agencies.

Prior to the Chamber, Schmiegel served in the United States Marine Corps and retired at the rank of lieutenant colonel after 20 years of service. In addition to his operational tours as a field artillery officer, he served in several unique overseas billets, including assignments as the executive and commanding officer of the Marine Corps Security Force Company in London from 1993 to 1996 and at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium, from 2003 to 2006.

At SHAPE, Schmiegel was the principal adviser to the NATO and U.S. European commander, traveling to more than 50 countries in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. He also wrote the strategic plans for NATO's training mission in Iraq, increased presence in Afghanistan, and oversaw disaster relief operations for Hurricane Katrina and the earthquake in Pakistan.

Schmiegel served as head of enlisted assignments for the Marine Corps from 2006 to 2007, leading a team of 60 human resource specialists who assigned 170,000 Marines worldwide.

In 2008, Schmiegel served as the military assistant to the special envoy for Middle East Regional Security and deployed to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, where he established the special envoy's field offices and worked with Israeli and Palestinian authorities on the peace process.

Schmiegel has a B.A. in English literature from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts, and an M.S. in management (with distinction) from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He resides in Fredericksburg, Virginia, with his wife and three sons.



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