

BIOGRAPHY

Anthony P. Armbrister, Commissioner, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

Tony Armbrister was appointed Commissioner by Governor Jeb Bush in January 2003. In this capacity, he serves all veterans in the State of Florida by ensuring that those who have served their country receive appropriate recognition and benefits of service that they so honorably deserve.

He recently served as Regional Director of the South Central Regional Office of the Florida Comptroller from April 1999 to March 2003. As Regional Director, he was responsible for managing and directing the Department of Banking and Finance's activities and operations in Broward County. Presently, he is co-founder, Vice President and COO of the BAE Company, a Health Management Consulting Firm in Miami.

Born in Miami Florida, he is one of three brothers who grew up in the Opa-locka area.

He served 24 years in the U.S. Marine Corps, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His tours of duty include Infantry Platoon Commander in Vietnam, Tank Company Commander, Instructor and Company Officer, U.S. Naval Academy, and Commanding Officer, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, MCRD San Diego. He retired in 1990 upon completion of a tour of duty as the Executive Officer, Marine Barracks, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

He earned a B.S. degree in political science from Florida A&M University and has done graduate work in education at the University of Memphis, human resource development at Johns Hopkins University, and public administration at Pepperdine University.

Since his return to South Florida in 1999, he has been active in Veterans' causes and has worked with Veterans' groups to promote recognition for World War II veterans.

He is a member Life Member of the VFW (Post 5693), The American Legion, The Military Officers Association, and the Reserve Officers Association

Tony Armbrister and his wife, Juanita, reside in Pembroke Pines, Florida.