



  
**Col. Francis P.  
 "Frank" King, USA  
 (Ret), Life member**

### Member Spotlight

Col. Francis P. "Frank" King, USA (Ret), left his role as a lawyer for the Army in 2017 to become ... "a lawyer for the Army."

"I have led a charmed life," he said of his 26-year decorated military justice career.


In 2018, King, 59, became chief counsel, Army Materiel Command Legal Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, and Communications-Electronics Command, where, among other duties, he oversees approximately 70 attorneys and is responsible for all legal matters pertaining to command, control, communications, computers, cyber, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, acquisition, and litigation strategies.

He is also director of community outreach for MOAA's Susquehanna (Md.) Chapter, where he is committed to engaging with students.

"There are a lot of good people in the armed forces," he said. "How do we connect young people with the armed services and, more particularly, veterans?"

His suggestion of a chapter Veterans Day essay and poster contest for local students "took on a life of its own." The contest, in its fourth year, draws enthusiastic participation from a range of students and more than two dozen volunteers, who help with expenses and judge the many entries from kindergarten through 12th grade.

In addition to giving cash prizes, the chapter has minted a special MOAA coin for top winners. Awards celebrations for 2024 included an evening ceremony at the Havre de Grace American Legion Post and an assembly at Harford Academy, a community school where participants "really celebrate. The kids like to see folks in uniform," King said.

King hopes the contest not only celebrates veterans each fall but also helps students think about "being part of something that is larger than yourself; you can do that in the military." 

— By Judy Christie, a writer in Colorado

PHOTO: MANN DENLINGER PHOTOGRAPHY