



**Matthew M. “Fritz” Mihelcic**  
**Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**

Matthew M. “Fritz” Mihelcic succeeded the Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief position of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. on July 24, 2020.

Fritz served in the United States Air Force Air National Guard from 1989 to 1999 with the 131st Tactical Fighter Wing. Activated for federal service, he served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm from 1990 to 1991 as a security policeman. In recognition of his service, he received the Air Force Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with V (Valor) Device, Southwest Asia Service Medal with two devices, and the Kuwait Liberation Medals from both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Additionally, he received numerous state and federal awards and decorations.

He joined the VFW in 1991, and currently maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership at Post 2698 in Sparta, Illinois. He served as Judge Advocate for the Department of Illinois from 1999 to 2011, the Department of Illinois Commander from 2013 to 2014, in which he achieved All-American status, multiple terms as the National Parliamentarian, and served four separate terms as National Judge Advocate General. He is also admitted to practice law in several state and federal jurisdictions.



Fritz received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Illinois in 1982. He graduated from the St. Louis University School of Law in 1985. He retired as a senior information law attorney with the United States Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

He is also a member of the Military Order of the Cootie, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Society of American Magicians, and the Professional Association of Diving Instructors.

Fritz and his wife, Megan, reside in Columbia, Illinois, along with his service dog, Mama Cass.

-vfw-