

Francis Spencer (31st Co.) – Campaign Statement

First off, I am amazed that I got enough votes to be eligible to run! I am not an Annapolis-area resident, but I am in Philadelphia and that's obviously a frequent home of the Army-Navy Game. I have a strong bond to the Academy, & my wife Barbara & I were married there (in the Levy Chapel) in 2013. Barb is all-in on Team Navy, too.

I was one of the early joiners of the '89 Retirementpalooza on 31 May 2019, which Edwin Henderson so ably brought over the finish line & for which Kelly Brown procured the Contigo water bottles. I was glad to successfully reach out to VADM Al Konetzni & have him agree to be the guest speaker at that great event, which put a bow on my 30 years of commissioned service. (Which, as Larry David would say, was "Pretty good. Pret-ty, pret-ty ... pretty good.") While I have only been in Philadelphia for 3 ½ years, I have developed some solid contacts in town, including becoming a member of The Union League of Philadelphia, which could be useful to the class.



I started my post-Navy job at Philadelphia Gear (part of The Timken Company) - after a lengthy three-day retirement – in June, and I am still supporting the Navy the Nation Needs by working to ensure that the Fleet has the best & most reliable main reduction gears. My work entails remaining connected to Navy-related organizations: the Navy League; Surface Navy Association; & American Society of Naval Engineers. I am an active member of multiple veteran-related organizations in the Philadelphia area.

I love Navy sports, and I have been to at least a game each year, even though I am not in the Annapolis/DC area. I am a frequent poster on the Class of 1989 Facebook group, and I enjoy following the careers of our more-accomplished classmates, both inside and outside the Navy and Marine Corps.

So, what's my value proposition? Look – we all know that our class is a bunch of highly-accomplished and highly-talented folks. I humbly assert that I am an above-average communicator; a loyal classmate; a calm & rational person; a supporter of diversity of thought; and that I will bring energy and commitment to the task.

Full disclosure - I have not previously volunteered for class activities or officer positions. However, now that I have transitioned from active duty, I look forward to being able to do more for the great Class of 1989, and for my outstanding classmates!

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