

SOCIETY FOR MILITARY PSYCHOLOGY

Presents this 2019 Presidential Citation to

Colonel (Retired) James Picano, PhD

For his leadership, vision, and direction of behavioral operations and performance at NASA's Johnson Space Center; selfless dedication to astronauts, their families, and co-workers; and applications of technology that may be applied for military aeromedical and operational psychology now and in the future.

Dr. Picano's efforts focus on integrating and leveraging human research to reduce and mitigate the impact of spaceflight hazards on astronauts. With a significant number of all astronauts being current or former military officers, Dr. Picano's unique insights, expertise, and dedication to military psychology helps to ensure that astronauts are able to perform at peak productivity under the most daunting and extreme conditions.

Dr. Picano's leadership and vision in the areas of astronaut assessment and selection have been exemplary. He leveraged his expertise from military psychology to help redesign and implement significant enhancements to the astronaut selection processes and program. Dr. Picano has provided support and instruction on operationally-relevant behavioral health and performance impacts of spaceflight. Additionally, he has been instrumental in identifying and implementing a new inflight cognitive assessment tool, and has worked to transition this assessment tool to operations.

Dr. Picano also provides valuable operational support to ongoing spaceflight missions on the International Space Station (ISS) and to ground-analog training conducted by the astronauts in preparation for spaceflight. He works closely with Crew Surgeons and Flight Surgeons to provide specific psychological consultations regarding the impact of spaceflight on crew members.

In all his many valued and important contributions, Dr. Picano serves as a source of inspiration and expertise on a wide variety of operational and programmatic topics, always acting with the highest character, selflessness, and genuine concern. He is nationally recognized and has contributed for the past two years at the Division 19 components at the APA convention, presenting on operational and aerospace psychology.

For his leadership, service, and dedication to aerospace and military psychology, I, Stephen V. Bowles, take great pleasure in presenting this Society for Military Psychology Presidential Citation to Dr. James Picano.

Stephen V. Bowles, PhD, ABPP
President, Society for Military Psychology

