

## UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR VETERANS CLAIMS

CEREMONIAL MISC. No. 02-26

IN RE: IN MEMORY OF LEONARD J. SELFON

Before ALLEN, *Chief Judge*, and PIETSCH, BARTLEY, GREENBERG, MEREDITH, TOTH, FALVEY, LAURER, and JAQUITH, *Judges*, and KRAMER, HOLDAWAY, GREENE, KASOLD, HAGEL, MOORMAN, LANCE, DAVIS, and SCHOELEN, *Senior Judges*.

### ORDER

Before the Court is the matter of the passing of Leonard J. Selfon, a dedicated veterans law attorney for over 40 years whose significant contributions to both the Court and the veterans law community at large are greatly appreciated. Mr. Selfon leaves a legacy of outstanding legal representation of veterans and their families, was a dedicated colleague and mentor who inspired and trained countless advocates in this field, and, above all, was a true friend of the Court. His passion for serving veterans and the Court with respect and kindness will be greatly missed.

Mr. Selfon began his long career in veterans law as a senior appellate attorney in the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Office of the General Counsel. He later became Director of Vietnam Veterans of America's Veterans Benefits Program, where he managed a network of veterans service lawyers and advocates and directly represented veterans and their families before VA. In July 2010, he joined Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA) where he served as Chief Legal Officer and later General Counsel. He was responsible for all aspects of PVA's legal affairs and was a trusted and experienced advisor who provided training and guidance to veterans and veterans law advocates across the country. Mr. Selfon represented PVA as a long-serving member of the Executive Board of The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program (TVC) where he provided strategic direction and helped lead TVC through tremendous growth in expanding veterans' access to legal services.

Mr. Selfon was generous with his time and expertise. For more than a decade he served on various Court committees, including Judicial Conference Planning, Admission and Practice, and, as a founding member, the Court's Judicial Advisory Committee. In his quiet and reliable way, he consistently shared valuable insights and ideas as to how the Court could better and more efficiently accomplish its mission and best serve veterans. Mr. Selfon was above all a gentleman, invariably tackling assignments with both passion and courtesy. His commitment to the Court and its mission over the years is exemplary and he will be remembered fondly and with appreciation.

Upon consideration of the foregoing, it is

ORDERED that the Court, with deepest sympathies, fondly remembers Leonard J. Selfon for his outstanding service and friendship to this institution, expresses sincere gratitude for his dedication to veterans and their families, and commends his lifelong commitment to veterans law and the many clients and colleagues who mourn his passing.

DATED: February 26, 2026

PER CURIAM.