



American Hellenic Institute

Nicholas Larigakis
President & Chief Operating Officer

Biography

Nick Larigakis became president & chief operating officer of the American Hellenic Institute (AHI), a non-profit Greek American public policy center, on January 1, 2011. In this capacity, he manages the day-to-day operations of AHI and its affiliated organizations. He directs all aspects of strategic planning, policy analysis, public affairs programming, government relations, financial development, and media communications. He has been with AHI since 1987. During his tenure, Larigakis has organized more than 70 legislative conferences, two trade conferences on “Doing Business in Greece,” nine conferences on the *Future of Hellenism in America* (2002-2010), and two congressional fact-finding delegations to Greece (1993 & 1997).

Larigakis’ responsibilities also include working with the U.S. Congress on U.S.-Greece-Cyprus relations where he has provided witness testimony before congressional appropriations committees on foreign aid policy; and as liaison to the grass roots community, traveling the U.S. to educate the public about AHI’s public policy issues and other aspects of its mission. Moreover, Larigakis frequently visits Greece and Cyprus to meet with government officials. As a result, he has been interviewed by mainstream, Greek-American, and Greek media outlets on issues affecting U.S.-Greece relations, including the *New York Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Newark Star Ledger*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Pensacola News Journal*, *AP*, and *Reuters*. He has been published in Greek American newspapers, including the *National Herald*, *Greek News*, *Hellenic Chronicle*, *Hellenic Voice* and *Hellenic News of America*. He has had numerous “Letters to the Editor” published in the *Washington Times*. In addition, Larigakis has prepared three editions of the *American Hellenic Who’s Who*.

Also, Larigakis serves as President of the Greek American Political Action Committee. He is a founding partner of 3NJ, LLC, a Virginia-based real estate development company. Prior to AHI, he worked at the National League of Families for POW/MIA’s from Southeast Asia where he helped coordinate its grass roots network.

For his work in support of Hellenic ideals and values, Larigakis has been honored with the *1995 Hermes Expo International Award*, the *2007 Hellenic News of America Award*, the *2008 Society of the Argonauts Award*, and by the *Greek Independence Day Committee of Tarpon Springs, Florida*, where he served as *Honorary Grand Marshall* of the 2001 and 2009 parades. He was recognized with an honorary award from the Hellenic National Defense General Staff. Larigakis is a member of AHEPA Chapter 438, Arlington, Va., He has also served on the Boards of the Greek Orthodox Young Adult League for four years (president in 1989); and the Delian League, an organization of young Greek American professionals, for three years (president in 1992). Larigakis has served St. Katherine’s Greek Orthodox Church, Falls, Church, Va., in many capacities, including its Parish Council (2000-2002 & 2004 - 2007), and he has organized numerous events to fundraise for his church.

Larigakis received his B.A. in Political Science from the College of New Jersey, formerly Trenton State, and did post-graduate work in International Affairs at the American University in Washington, D.C.

In 2003, Larigakis was invested an Archon in the Order of St. Andrew the Apostle of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. This is the highest lay award presented within the Orthodox Church.

During the historic 2004 Athens Olympic Games he served in a volunteer capacity as a “Protocol Venue Attendant” at the Olympic Indoor Hall.

Larigakis is from the island of Skopelos, Greece and resides in Alexandria, Va. He has a daughter, Panayiota.