

## **WEST POINT ASSOCIATION OF GRADUATES**

## **UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY**

15 November 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Long Gray Line and all West Point Supporters

SUBJECT: WPAOG 2009 IRS Form 990 Tax Return for Nonprofit Organizations

- 1. The Board of Directors of the West Point Association of Graduates (WPAOG), its staff and I are pleased to provide our 2009 tax return and attachments that were recently filed (not yet processed) with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). We are proud to present this information in the spirit of transparency and to ensure confidence in our efforts "to serve West Point and its Graduates." Under advice from our auditors, to allow for proper review by the Audit & Compliance Committee and the Board of Directors, WPAOG asked for and received an extension to file these documents by November 15, 2010.
- 2. Due to the dramatic events on Wall Street beginning in the later part of 2008 and the state of the economy for 2009, donations to the West Point Association of Graduates were down 5% for the full year while the number of donors actually increased by 1%. In 2009 WPAOG granted almost \$13 million to West Point. This type of steadfast support is deeply appreciated by the United States Military Academy, the Corps of Cadets, and WPAOG.
- 3. In 2009 the WPAOG continued its full slate of activities to further the ideals of West Point by presenting the Thayer, Nininger, and Pershing Awards, as well as the Class of 1970 Conference on Ethics in America, Diversity Leadership, and Class of 1967 Alumni Leaders Conferences. The total number of active alumni societies across the globe numbers more than 125.
- 4. Operationally, seeing where economic conditions were heading, the WPAOG trimmed expenses and implemented a hiring and wage freeze in the later part of 2008, which has proven to be fortuitous from a budgetary perspective. We continue to move forward with our Comprehensive Fundraising Campaign for West Point and we did not have to invade the corpus of the Long Gray Line Endowment for operating expenses.

- 5. In terms of this specific report for 2009, the IRS significantly revised its Form 990 in 2008 from previous years to incorporate additional detail about the organization, its policies as well as increased transparency concerning governance issues. We encourage you to review those sections of this report which can be found in Part VI, Sections A and B.
- 6. We are proud to represent you, and the ideals of Duty, Honor, Country at West Point and around the world. Should you have specific questions about this return, please contact our Vice President/CFO, Carl Moccia at <a href="mailto:carl.moccia@wpaog.org">carl.moccia@wpaog.org</a>.

Robert L. McClure '76 Colonel, USA (Retired)

President and CEO