



Mark Stevens Coppess

Human Rights Education Institute, Board President

Born and raised in Coeur d'Alene, Mark is a native North Idahoan. After high school, Mark attended the School of Engineering at Portland State University earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. Upon graduating, Mark was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, where he served the next 26 years. Mark's service as a pilot in the Marine Corps led him to a multitude of assignments all across the globe. Some of these assignments included Okinawa, Japan as a Commanding Officer, The Pentagon as the Executive Director of Readiness Assessment, and John-Hopkins University as the sole Marine fellow for the Department of Defense.

In January of 2021 Mark retired from the Marine Corps, as a Colonel, and moved back home to Coeur d'Alene with his wife and son. Mark's break in service did not last long as he was elected President of the Human Rights Education Institute in January of 2021; the very same month of his retirement from the Marine Corps. Mark's service all around the world has taught him that diversity is one of America's, and Coeur d'Alene's greatest strengths. Mark is committed to inclusion and education so that the community can capitalize on all of the unique talents, backgrounds, and perspectives that make up the Coeur d'Alene community.