

Dr. David J. Cohen

Board Member

Bexar County Hospital District Board of Managers

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Dr. David J. Cohen joined the Bexar County Hospital District Board of Managers in 2023. Bexar County Commissioner for Precinct 3 Grant Moody nominated him.

Dr. Cohen is a board-certified cardiothoracic surgeon who received his undergraduate degree from Rice University and medical degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He completed general surgery residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital and at the University of Washington. He then completed a cardiothoracic residency at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia as well as a fellowship in Cardiac

Transplantation at the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, Texas.

Dr. Cohen also holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and a Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Texas San Antonio. He has been a faculty member in Cardiothoracic Surgery at the University of Wisconsin Medical School, the Uniformed University of the Health Sciences, and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio where he was a tenured Associate Professor.

Dr. Cohen was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army Reserves in 1968 and served in the Army Reserve or on active duty for 38 years. Early in his military career he was in the Special Forces serving as the 10th Special Forces Group Surgeon. He later was the Chief of Cardiac Physiology at Walter Reed Army Institute of Research and served as a Cardiothoracic Surgeon at the Bethesda Naval Hospital and Brooke Army Medical Center. He was chief of cardiothoracic surgery at BAMC, director of the CT surgery residency program, led the Army's only Heart transplant program and was the Cardiothoracic Surgery Consultant to the Army Surgeon General. During Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, he served on a Forward Surgical Team, and he also served two later combat tours during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He retired from the Army as a Colonel and subsequently joined the Texas State Guard where he was promoted to Brigadier General and commanded the Texas Medical Brigade.

Dr. Cohen is the Chairman of the San Antonio Metropolitan Health Medical Reserve Corps. He has been extensively involved with the Boy Scouts of America since 1988, currently serving as a member of its National Medical Subcommittee.

He is an Eagle Scout, recipient of a Distinguished Service Award from the Bexar County Medical Society and has earned a place on Texas Monthly's annual "Texas Super Doctor" list three times. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Texas Superior Service Medal, Special Forces Tab, Parachute Wings and Scuba Diver Badge.