

Ray Martinez
City Councilmember, District 2
April 2015

Elected to represent District 2 in April 2015, Ray Martinez is dedicated to the Fort Collins, Colorado community in which he grew up and has over 30 years' experience in public service. He served three years in the United States Army in Thailand and stateside duty — also earning the Army Commendation Medal. Ray began his career in the Fort Collins' Police department in 1974. During his tenure, he worked closely with Hispanic community leaders, youth and athletes to improve the relationships between the community and the Police. Mr. Martinez was the lead investigator in an international terrorist investigation involving the attempted assassination of a Libyan student. The magnitude of this criminal episode is the subject of two published books: "Death Merchant" by Joseph Goulden and "Man Hunt" by Peter Maas. Historically, Mr. Martinez was the first Hispanic Sergeant in Fort Collins police service (appointed 1982 by Police Chief Ralph Smith) and retired from Police service in 1996 after twenty-five years of law enforcement service. In 1999, Ray was elected as Mayor of Fort Collins and continued for three terms, through 2005.

Public safety is one of the primary concerns of Mr. Martinez. He was dedicated to it as a police officer; it was the subject of his first book; and, as Mayor he served on two public safety boards. The United States Conference of Mayors appointed Mayor Ray Martinez as Co-Chair of the Mayors and Police Chiefs Committee for the year 2002. He also presided over the National League of Cities Steering Committee for Public Safety and Crime Prevention. Mayor Martinez was elected to the Advisory Board of the United States Conference of Mayors in June 2003. Ray was elected for three terms as mayor and he was the first Hispanic mayor in the history of Fort Collins to be elected by the people.

In 1997, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, Ray Martinez was a nominee for the Conrad L. Ball Award and was recognized for "Outstanding Contribution to the Quality of Justice" presented by the Larimer County Community Corrections Board.

On October 5, 2002, Mr. Martinez was one of five people in Colorado honored by the Denver Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for Leadership, Professionalism, Pride and Unity as a first in his field; a pioneer of Fort Collins and the State of Colorado.

Mr. Martinez is an active member of several local and state boards. With a particular focus in serving our young adults, he co-founded an organization known as Neighborhoods United. Volunteers work directly with at risk youth to provide them with positive educational and recreational experiences along with activities that will unite these young people with their neighborhoods and the community.

Ray's current work as a board director for Project Smile, and his involvement with Larimer County Crime Stoppers, Elevations Credit Union, Board of Trustees for Colorado Mesa

University, Salvation Army Board President, and the South Fort Collins Business Association, are business associations that keep him in constant communication and building relationships with the community.