

March 25, 2025

Good afternoon. I would like to thank USA Judo and the Nominating and Governance Committee for this amazing opportunity to be part of the upcoming election for the USA Judo Board's Independent Director position.

Last fall, I joined the USA Judo Ethics and Grievance Committee as an Independent Member. I received this invitation in recognition of my extensive career in law enforcement and my notable achievements in sports. After researching the responsibilities of the position and history of Committee challenges over the past year, I felt I could help and now serve as the Chair of the Committee. I believe my experience and insight from my professional career will assist USA Judo in overcoming the challenges of the past and get on course for the future we all want for this great sport.

I began my law enforcement career with the Newark Police Department in 1989 and retired after 30 years of service. My career started in the NPD Patrol Division, and I later moved into the Narcotics Unit working as an undercover detective. I progressed from Sergeant to Lieutenant, then Captain with the NPD before retiring in 2018. During my career, I was a precinct commander, the NPD spokesperson, and oversaw the department's community relations. I worked as an Investigator and Commander of the Internal Affairs Division and the Special Investigations Division. In the last two years of my tenure, I was assigned to the Office of Public Safety. This office encompasses the Police and Fire Departments, as well as the Office of Emergency Management. As the Executive Assistant, I oversaw Special Projects and Media Relations, and the Community Affairs Division. The Public Safety Director selected me due to the strength of my leadership, my communication skills, and my commitment to always being honest, trustworthy, and truthful regardless of the challenges. I am a problem solver with tireless energy to ensure the job gets done right. By working together, our leadership team was able to quickly achieve significant crime reductions, reduce citizen complaints, and increase community confidence in our departments. I witnessed how our strong leadership and team unity changed the trajectory of our organization and took us to the next level of best practices in serving our citizens and community.

I have a passion for sports and enjoyed an impressive career in Collegiate Wrestling, Judo, and Sambo, earning All-American honors as a bronze medalist at the NCAA Division 1 Wrestling Championships. Exciting moments for me include earning wins over NCAA Champions and an Olympic Champion. While attending the University of Oklahoma, I joined the Sooner Judo Club and competed in regional tournaments. Later on, I became interested in Sambo and secured first place in the 74 kg category at the US National Championship.

I have a record of successfully bringing people and teams together to work cooperatively, focusing on building bridges, not walls. I am excited to apply my skills to solve past challenges and help create a better future for our athletes and the organization.

As a former athlete, I understand the importance of support and how it helps athletes achieve their goals. If selected to the board, the athletes can count on me to be their strongest advocate.

Thank you for listening. I appreciate your vote and support for my candidacy as an Independent Director of the USA Judo Board.

Respectfully,
Derek Glenn
Captain, Newark Police Department (Ret)