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I would like to declare my candidacy for the position of Regional Director.

I have been a member of United Schutzhund Clubs of America since April of 1988. I am currently retired and spend much of my time training.

I am currently the Training Director and President of the Aztec Schutzhund Club.

My interest in Schutzhund started in 1984 when I created the San Diego Police Department's Canine program.

I was the Sergeant in charge of supervising and training the SDPD canine teams. I held this position for twelve years. During this time I handled six Police Service Dogs.

While a member of the Police Department, I started The Aztec Schutzhund and The San Diego Diensthund Club.

I am a two-time member of the Schutzhund 3 Club, most recently with a dog I bred, trained and handled. I own a small hobby kennel under the name of vom Haus Gayler.

I have handled and titled eleven dogs. I have trialed at the local, regional and national level. I am a training helper and I am classified as a Club level helper.

I have shown several dogs in the show ring. I recently received a KKL1 on one of my bitches, Mia vom Haus Gayler SchH3, KKL1.

I have obtained the Gold Sports Medal.

For the last two years I have had the privilege to serve the region as the Regional Director. I have made every effort to be approachable and helpful to all of the membership. I hope that you will support me in my bid to represent the Region for the next two years.

Thom Payne