

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, September 09, 2025 – 6:00 pm Room 416, San Francisco City Hall

WILLIAM BARNICKEL, PRESIDENT NICHOLAS RUSANOFF, VICE-PRESIDENT JOSEPH BABA, JAMES BOATMAN, HANLEY CHAN, JASON CHITTAVONG, DEBORAH DACUMOS, PRINCE KELLY JORDAN, DARYA KUTOVAYA, JENNY PEREZ, JOHN REISSENWEBER

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CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL / CONFIRM QUORUM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SET AGENDA [Action]

PRESENTATIONS

- Mayoral Certificate of Honor presented to Dr. John Straznickas on the occasion of his
 retirement from the San Francisco VA Health Care System after many decades of service to
 veterans. Commission Vice-President Nicholas Rusanoff to present certificate. [10 minutes]
- Supporting Veterans In Crisis: Geary Stabilization Unit, a community based short-term mental health clinic. Presenters from Department of Public Health (DPH) and SFPD will provide an overview of services and data from the clinic's first months of operation.

 [20 minutes (10 min. presentation / 10 min. Q&A with Commissioners)]

Presenters: Eme Garcia (DPH) and Captain James Aherne (SFPD)



COMMUNICATION

CVSO Report

SF CVSO Maurice Delmer [Present Report / Q&A with Commissioners – 15 minutes]

Executive Team Updates

Secretary
Vice-President
President

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

August 12, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes Draft [ACTION / VOTE]

NEW BUSINESS

 Support for Veterans during September National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month Review/ approve draft letter to the Mayor requesting support in raising awareness of the elevated suicide risk among veterans and promoting available local resources. Draft letter was shared in advance of meeting for review. Commissioner Reissenweber to lead discussion. [DISCUSSION/ACTION]

OLD BUSINESS

- Westside Community Services Crisis Clinic Program Update
 Update will be shared by Health Clinic Program Manager Brook Chick. This follows up on the
 clinic operations overview originally shared with the Commission at its August 8, 2023
 meeting. [DISCUSSION]
- U.S. Navy 250th Anniversary Commission Participation Update Follow-up to last month's discussion regarding opportunities for commissioner involvement in upcoming celebrations commemorating the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Navy. Commissioners Jordan and Chan will provide update. [DISCUSSION]

GOOD WELFARE

This is the opportunity for members of the Veterans Affairs Commission to share special thanks and congratulatory remarks for the good welfare taking place in the veteran community.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

An opportunity for commission members to share information about San Francisco veteran events or briefly comment on San Francisco veterans related news.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

An opportunity for members of the public to directly address the Commission on items of interest to the public that are within the subject of veteran affairs. Members of the public should address the commission as a whole and not direct comments to a specific commissioner. Speakers are allowed up to two minutes for comments. Each member of the public will be allotted the same number of minutes to speak. The President or the Commission may limit the total testimony to 30 minutes.

Members of the public who want a document placed on the overhead, please notify the commission secretary in advance for assistance.

HONORS REPORT AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

In memory of American service members in all wars and conflicts who made the ultimate sacrifice. We also remember the passing of homeless veterans, veterans who died while awaiting approval of benefits, and suicides within the veteran and armed service communities.

ADJOURNMENT

This document is Official Business of the Veterans Affairs Commission, City and County of San Francisco. It is part of the official Public Record of the City and County of San Francisco.

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Veterans Affairs Commission Meetings:

General meetings of the SFVAC are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month, except for July, when there is no scheduled SF VAC meeting, and are held in Room 416 in City Hall.



Meeting confirmation, and specific announcement of general meetings are made via public posting of the Meeting Agenda as required by law, at least 72 hours prior to scheduled meetings. Agendas for SFVAC meetings (and archived meeting minutes) are available on the SFVAC Pages of the City of San Francisco website.

Disability Access:

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If you or a Veteran, you know is in immediate danger to themselves or others, please call 911 or visit your local emergency room.

The Veterans Crisis Line is also available by texting 838255 or by going to their website and chatting with a mental health professional.



24/7 Confidential Support

Text MYLIFE to 741741 Crisis Line: (415) 781-0500