



VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 – 6:00 pm

Room 416, San Francisco City Hall

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

City Hall Hearing Rooms are wheelchair accessible. Remote public participation is available upon request for members of the public who cannot attend in person due to disability. Making a request to participate remotely no later than five (5) hours prior to the start of the meeting helps ensure availability of the meeting link. To request a meeting link due to disability, please call (415) 509-9691.

RAMAYTUSH OHLONE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“The San Francisco Veterans Affairs Commission acknowledges that we are on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone who are the original inhabitants of the San Francisco Peninsula. As the indigenous stewards of this land and in accordance with their traditions, the Ramaytush Ohlone have never ceded, lost, nor forgotten their responsibilities as the caretakers of this place, as well as for all peoples who reside in their traditional territory. As guests, we recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland. We wish to pay our respects by acknowledging the Ancestors, Elders, and Relatives of the Ramaytush Ohlone community and by affirming their sovereign rights as First Peoples.”

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL / CONFIRM QUORUM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



SET AGENDA [Action]

PRESENTATION

Swearing-in of 2026 Veterans Affairs Commission Members

Sheriff Paul Miyamoto to lead swearing-in ceremony.

COMMUNICATION

CVSO Report

[Present Report / Q&A with Commissioners – 15 minutes]

Executive Team Updates

Secretary

Vice-President

President

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

December 9, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes Draft

[ACTION / VOTE]

NEW BUSINESS

- Kick-off new year with a review of best practices for commission meeting procedures and compliance with applicable laws. (Summary document shared with commissioners and posted to VAC website prior to meeting.) [DISCUSSION]
- Review and approve draft Commission outreach letters to Board of Supervisors and Mayor: New Year Greetings and Commitment to Advancing Support for San Francisco Veterans and Families. [ACTION]
- Commissioner Rusanoff will seek a meeting with the office of Supervisor Alan Wong to discuss feasibility of creating legislation adjusting the building code to require all San Francisco construction projects with multiple unit HOAs to be in compliance with VA home loans. This topic follows a discussion from the December 18th Veterans Roundtable Event attended by Mayor Lurie, various San Francisco veteran organizations, and some Veteran Affairs Commissioners. (Two informational documents drafted by Commissioner Rusanoff shared with commissioners and posted to VAC website prior to the meeting.) [DISCUSSION]



OLD BUSINESS

- Update from Commissioner Rusanoff regarding status of the SFCVSO Director position. This update is a result of discussions held during the Mayor's Veterans Roundtable Event of December 18, 2025. [DISCUSSION]
- Request a Mayoral Certificate of Honor to recognize the outstanding service provided by long time SFCVSO claims representatives John Gallagher and Elvie Flaviano. [ACTION]

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.

Public Access:



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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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**Veterans
Crisis Line**



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

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Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, California 94102-4689

Veterans Affairs Commission



City and County of San Francisco

Crisis Line:
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