



## **VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

### **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 – 6:00 pm

Room 416, San Francisco City Hall

WILLIAM BARNICKEL, PRESIDENT

HANLEY CHAN, VICE-PRESIDENT

JOSEPH BABA, JAMES BOATMAN, DEBORAH DACUMOS,

PRINCE KELLY JORDAN, DARYA KUTOVAYA, ADITYA LAKSHMINARAYAN,

JENNY PEREZ, JOHN REISSENWEBER, NICHOLAS RUSANOFF

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### **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.

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

### **ROLL CALL / CONFIRM QUORUM**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **SET AGENDA [Action]**



## **PRESENTATIONS**

### Outcome of VA Benefits upon Veteran Population

Presented by Jaime Betancur, MSW, Office of Public Affairs, VA Palo Alto and Kathleen Mink, SFVA

This presentation was arranged by Commissioner Reissenweber after he observed it at a meeting of the Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission.

[Presentation – 10 minutes / Q&A – 10 minutes]

### Mindful Movement for Veterans

Presented by Regina Dick-Endrizzi, JGPG Board of Directors, and Liam Day, JGPG Executive Director

An overview of the ongoing partnership between the Joe Goode Performance Group and the San Francisco VA Health Care System to provide gentle, mindful movement classes that strengthen the mind-body connection and support veteran well-being.

[Presentation – 10 minutes / Q&A – 10 minutes]

### Mayor Certificate of Honor for Robert Vicari, Jr. – a Marine, Korean War veteran, and longtime SF resident.

President Barnickel will present this Certificate of Honor that was previously approved by the Commission at its March 10 meeting.

## **COMMUNICATION**

**SFCVSO Report** – CVSO Acting Director.

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

### **Executive Team Updates**

Secretary

Vice-President

President

## **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

March 10, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes Draft

[ACTION / VOTE]



## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Review and Approval of Advocacy Letter to Prevent Elimination of two Positions at the Veterans Justice Court (VJC). The Commission will review letter drafted by Commissioner Rusanoff. Commissioner Rusanoff to lead discussion. [ACTION]
- Pending CA Assembly Bill related to Disabled Veterans Placards. VP Chan will lead discussion. [DISCUSSION]
- Review and Approval of Advocacy Letter Supporting Contra Costa Veterans Commission. Commission consideration of a letter drafted by Commission VP Hanley Chan supporting the establishment of a Veterans Affairs Commission in Contra Costa County. [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.

In Memoriam:



Mr. Chuck Norris, an American Air Force veteran, renowned martial artist, and enduring symbol of discipline, strength, and service. Mr. Norris passed away on March 16, 2206 at the age of 86.

Mr. James Edward Lane, a distinguished United States Marine Corps Veteran, respected business leader, and cherished community pillar of San Francisco's Fillmore District, who passed away on March 20, 2026, at the age of 90.

## **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.

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**Veterans  
Crisis Line**



1-800-273-8255

If you or a Veteran, you know is in  
immediate danger to themselves or others,

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



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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Crisis Line:  
(415) 781-0500