

## VFP Board Candidate Questionnaire

1) Please briefly describe why you would like to be on the VFP board and what you believe you'll bring to the organization as a board member.

Because I know intimately the cost of war as a United States Marine Vietnam combat veteran, I understand the disastrous consequences of American intervention, and the seemingly never-ending military sacrifices of our male and female veterans, in mental health, trauma and betrayal, homelessness, jail, deportation, the constant battle to access services and programs that is the cost of War, that shared burden of sacrifice of self, family, community and the country.

I believe that I bring an historical perspective to the board as one who has both participated in and observed internal politics in multiple organizations since 1970. I would like to be a small part in the continued growth and the defining struggles we face in today's reality as an internationally respected progressive veteran's organization in the area of Trump. I am uncertain as to where or on what committees I could be of the most use to benefit VFP but I am ready to serve and apply my knowledge and experience in any needed capacity.

2) What do you do, or did you do if retired, for a living?

Retired Realtor 1982 to 2013  
Development Consultant 1984 to 1991  
Home Remodeling 1996 to 2013

3) Have you served on any non-profit boards before?

Yes.

Vietnam Veterans Against the War California Regional Office Manager,  
Fundraiser and Treasurer 1971 thru 1975  
Ericson Elementary Foundation 1995 - 1999  
Two (2) Homeowners Association Boards 1980's and 1990's  
San Diego Veterans For Peace Chapter 91 Vice President 2009 & briefly in 2010  
as President

4) If so, what board committee(s) were you on?

Director on Ericson Board in charge of developing community fundraising sources and corporate sponsorships.  
Represented the Developer on 1st Homeowners Association Board until Construction on all phases was completed.  
Facility Maintenance needs and bid proposals on 2nd Homeowners Association.

5) Has your work or non-profit board experience included any responsibilities in any of these areas?

Yes - Human resource/personnel (mgmt. multiple small construction projects & workers in two small factories in three departments at once)

Yes - Legal (limited)

Yes - Development/fundraising (grassroots begging only)

Yes - Accounting & financial management (oversite no actual accounting)

6) When was your military service?

USMC 22 October 1965 thru 16 February 1970

Viet Nam Sept. 1966 - May 1968

7) Where do you live?

70% of my time in San Diego California

30% of my time in Tijuana, Baja California Mexico

8) Do you belong to any racial or ethnic minority? N/A

9) Please describe some of the tasks/projects/responsibilities you've undertaken for VFP.

I have been active in progressive politics, as an anti-war and a veteran's activist since 1970, the year I got out of the Marine Corps. First, in the California Veterans Movement (CVM), Vietnam Veterans Against the War (VVAW) participated in planning The Last Patrol from Southern California to Miami for the 1972 Republican National Convention instrumental in soliciting a donation of 10,000 feet of film to film the documentary The Last Patrol & VVAW/OSS.

- Marched with VFP Chapter 91 in the 2007 Veterans/Armistice Day Parade in San Diego.
- Instrumental along with members of VFP LA/Long Beach/Orange County, IVAW, MFSO, VVAW and VetSpeak in reversing the denial of these veterans groups their right to march in the 2007 Long Beach Veterans Day Parade (the same city where in the 1970's VVAW was denied the right to march).
- Member of Veterans For Peace, San Diego Chapter 91 since 2008.
- Founded Banished Veterans with Atty. Heather Boxeth and USMC Vet Louie Alvarez in exposing the issue of America Deporting Our U. S. Military "Green Card" Veterans a National Disgrace that continue to this day but under a much brighter spot light of public and media exposure along with progress on the political front.

- Instrumental in the maintenance of the Arlington West Cross Display, storage, hauling to and from for approx. 4 years from approx. 2008 thru 2012.
- Founded the VFP Chapter 91 Compassion Campaign in 2011 to raise funds to purchase and distribute 100 sleeping bags, ponchos and stuff sacks in winter to our homeless neighbors on the streets of San Diego. Participated for approx. 4 years. The chapter continues the campaign today under the leadership of several members and the Director of Communication Gil Field who has kept the Press Releases going and the funds flowing in. To date over \$80,000.00 has been raised and over 3500 sleeping bag sets distributed.
- Worked on behalf of VFP 91 for the Veterans Diversion and Treatment Court in San Diego. It finally got established in the San Diego County Courts but sadly was watered down to simple misdemeanors charges only.
- For numerous years since 2008 I have met with members of Congress from the five congressional districts in San Diego County on Veterans Diversion and Treatment Courts, War, Military Budget and Deported Veterans.
- Worked on planning and implementation of protests and marches such as Occupy, Gay Pride Parade, Martin Luther King Day Parade, Memorial Day, Armistice Day, Arlington West.
- Proposed and initiated 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Southern California VFP Sub-Regional Conference along with IVAW and MFSO held in San Diego in 2010 and in Ventura in 2011. Resulted in Norther California Sub-Regional Conferences that continues to this day.
- Helped plan and execute major local events on committees where veterans were involved such as the Gay Pride Parade, Martin Luther King Day, Memorial Day, Armistice Day, and various other veteran committees.
- Initiated protest and support marches, such as Los Angeles Wilshire VA Hospital, Occupy San Diego, promoted and initiated peace conferences and events at our community colleges and in the community.
- Instrumental in forming two International VFP Chapters in Baja California Mexico.
- 2016 Participated in VFP National Lobby Days in DC
- In 2017 Instrumental in opening and funding the 1st Deported Veterans Resource and Information Center Office right on the border in Tijuana ½ block from the point of deportation from California into Mexico.
- In 2017 began working with the League of Women Voters on the issue of Deported Veterans which has been a tremendous ongoing success as they work at making it a National Issue for the League alongside our VFP Deported Veterans Chapter 182 in Baja California Mexico
- Member on the VFP National, Deported Veterans Advocacy Project.

Thank you

