

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BOARD APPOINTMENT SUMMARY

Meeting Date: March 11, 2025

Department Submitted By: Community Services
Advisory Board: Veteran Services Advisory Board

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: the appointments of two (2) members to the Veteran Services Advisory Board (VSAB), for a term of March 11, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

<u>Seat No.</u>	<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Seat Requirement</u>	<u>Recommended By</u>
1	Dale (John) Dyben	Mental Health/Substance Use/ Suicide Prevention	Mayor Maria G. Marino Commissioner Gregg Weiss Commissioner Marci Woodward
10	Eric Ducharme	At-large	Mayor Maria G. Marino Commissioner Gregg Weiss Commissioner Marci Woodward

Summary: The VSAB is focused on assessing the needs of veterans in Palm Beach County (County) and providing a more efficient coordination among service providers to address service gaps and identified needs. On August 22, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) established the VSAB via Resolution 2023-1162. The total membership for VSAB consists of no more than 11 at-large members, representing both public and private sector organizations whose mission is to assist veterans and their families. Membership shall reflect the racial, ethnic, and geographic diversity of the County. Members must have knowledge of at least one (1) component of the support services available to assist veterans and their dependents. Staff conducts targeted outreach to identify candidates for appointments, ensuring the VSAB maintains a diverse composition. The diversity count for the eight (8) currently filled seats, is as follows: African-American: one (1) (12%), Caucasian: five (5) (63%), and Hispanic-American: two (2) (25%). The gender ratio (male: female) is 6:2. Mr. Dyben and Mr. Ducharme are both Caucasian. The staff has addressed the need to increase diversity within our board and will continue to promote efforts to expand this Board's diversity. Countywide (HH)

Background and Justification: On March 14, 2023, the BCC directed County Administration to establish a VSAB. The Division of Senior and Veteran Services (DSVS) will provide staff support. Resolution 2023-1162 grants the VSAB authority to collect information related to veterans in the County, share that information with input and guidance to the BCC, and offer recommendations on responding to the needs of the veteran population. Additionally, the VSAB will advise the BCC on veteran's needs, available resources, and work to increase coordination and collaboration among entities dedicated to assisting veterans and their families.

Attachments:

1. Boards Applications and Resume (2)
2. Inventory of Seats
3. Resolution R2023-1162

Recommended By: Taruna Mallholtra 2/12/2025
Signed by:
 Department Director Date

Legal Sufficiency: Jedene C. Hing 2-12-2025
 Assistant County Attorney Date

II. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. Other Department Review:

Department Director

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BOARDS/COMMITTEES APPLICATION

The information provided on this form will be used in considering your nomination. Please COMPLETE SECTION II IN FULL. Answer "none" or "not applicable" where appropriate. Please attach a biography or résumé to this form.

Section I (Department): (Please Print)

Board Name: Palm Beach County Veterans Service Advisory Board Advisory Not Advisory

At Large Appointment or District Appointment / District # _____

Term of Appointment: 1.6 Years. From: 3/11/25 To: 9/30/2026

Seat Requirement: Provide Services to Veterans w/ mental health component Seat #: 1

*Reappointment or New Appointment

or to complete the term of Mr. Forsworth Due to: resignation other
Completion of term to expire on: 9/30/2026

*When a person is being considered for reappointment, the number of previous disclosed voting conflicts during the previous term shall be considered by the Board of County Commissioners: _____

Section II (Applicant): (Please Print)

APPLICANT, UNLESS EXEMPTED, MUST BE A COUNTY RESIDENT

Name: Dyben Dale John
Last First Middle

Occupation/Affiliation: Chief of Research & Innovation, Hanley Foundation
Owner Employee Officer

Business Name: Hanley Foundation

Business Address: 933 45th Street

City & State: West Palm Beach, FL Zip Code: 33407

Residence Address: 5066 Starblaze Dr.

City & State: Greenacres, FL Zip Code: 33463

Home Phone: (661) 762-0930 Business Phone: (561) 871-1254 Ext.

Cell Phone: () Fax: ()

Email Address: jdyben@hanleycenter.org

Mailing Address Preference: Business Residence

Have you ever been convicted of a felony: Yes _____ No
If Yes, state the court, nature of offense, disposition of case and date: _____

Minority Identification Code: Male Female
 Native-American Hispanic-American Asian-American African-American Caucasian

CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS: Pursuant to Article XIII, Sec. 2-443 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, advisory board members are prohibited from entering into any contract or other transaction for goods or services with Palm Beach County. Exceptions to this prohibition include awards made under sealed competitive bids, certain emergency and sole source purchases, and transactions that do not exceed \$500 per year in aggregate. These exemptions are described in the Code. This prohibition does not apply when the advisory board member's board provides no regulation, oversight, management, or policy-setting recommendations regarding the subject contract or transaction and the contract or transaction is disclosed at a public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. To determine compliance with this provision, it is necessary that you, as a board member applicant, identify all contractual relationships between Palm Beach County government and you as an individual, directly or indirectly, or your employer or business. This information should be provided in the space below. If there are no contracts or transactions to report, please verify that none exist. Staff will review this information and determine if you are eligible to serve or if you may be eligible for an exception or waiver pursuant to the code.

<u>Contract/Transaction No.</u>	<u>Department/Division</u>	<u>Description of Services</u>	<u>Term</u>
Example: (R#XX-XX/PO XX)	Parks & Recreation	General Maintenance	10/01/00-09/30/2100
N/A			
(Attach Additional Sheet(s), if necessary) OR			
NONE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOT APPLICABLE/ (Governmental Entity)	<input type="checkbox"/>

ETHICS TRAINING: All board members are required to read and complete training on Article XIII of the Palm Beach Code, the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics. Training on the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics can be found on the web at: <http://www.palmbeachcountyetics.com/training.htm>. Ethics training is on-going, and pursuant to PPM CW-P-80 is required before appointment, and upon reappointment. All board members must also be familiar with the State of Florida Code of Ethics, (Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes), and the Florida Sunshine Law.

By signing below I agree to abide by the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, and acknowledge that I have received the required Ethics training (in the manner checked below):

By watching the training program on the Web, DVD or VHS on 2/19 2024
 By attending a live presentation given on _____, 20____

AND

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Florida Sunshine Law and the State of Florida Code of Ethics, Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes:

*Applicant's Signature: [Signature] Printed Name: Dale (John) Dyben Date: 2.19.24

Any questions and/or concerns regarding Article XIII of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, please visit the Commission on Ethics website www.palmbeachcountyetics.com or contact us via email at ethics@palmbeachcountyetics.com or (561) 233-0724.

Return this FORM to:

Section III (Commissioner, if applicable):

Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on: 1-13-25

Commissioner's Signature: [Signature] Date: 1-3-25

Pursuant to Florida's Public Records Law, this document may be reviewed and photocopied by members of the public.

Revised 01/09/2023

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(Attach Additional Sheet(s), if necessary)
OR

NONE



NOT APPLICABLE/
(Governmental Entity)



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Return this FORM to:

Section III (Commissioner, if applicable):

Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on: _____

Commissioner's Signature: Mari Woodward Date: 1-9-25

D. John Dyben

5066 Starblaze Drive, Greenacres, FL 33463

(561) 762-0930 didyben@gmail.com

WORK HISTORY:

Hanley Foundation, West Palm Beach, FL Chief of Research and Innovation <i>Previous positions: Chaplain, Program Director. Executive Clinical Director, Chief Clinical Officer</i>	2004 to Present
Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth, FL Adjunct Faculty – Human Services	2004 to 2016
The Drug Abuse Foundation of PBC, Delray Beach, FL Director of Point of Entry Services	2003 to 2004
Boy's Town USA (Father Flanagan's Boys Town) Director of Emergency Adolescent Services Family Preservation/Foster Care Consultant	2001 to 2003
Community Intervention & Research Center, WPB, FL Area Supervisor, South/Central Palm Beach County	1999 to 2001
Covenant Community Church, PB Gardens, FL Staff Pastor – Ordained 1997	1996 to 1999

EDUCATION:

- Doctor of Health Science**
Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- Master of Science in Business Management**
Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA
- Master of Arts in Conflict Management**
Trinity Theological Seminary, Newburgh, IN
- Master of Arts in Marriage & Family Therapy (March, 2024)**
National University, San Diego, CA
- Doctoral Studies – Psychology – 24 semester hours**
Northcentral University, Prescott Valley, AZ
- Bachelor of Science in Psychology**
LaSalle University, Mandeville, LA
- Certificate in Nutritional Psychology**
John F Kennedy University, Pleasant Hill, CA

MEMBERSHIPS: American Society of Addiction Medicine
American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists
Delta Kappa International Marriage and Family Therapy Honor Society

CERTIFICATIONS:
& LICENSURE Certified Mental Health Professional # 50016
Florida Certification Board

Master Certified Addictions Professional # 100057
Florida Certification Board

Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor # 16433
Texas Department of State Health Services

Certified Clinical Supervisor # 24
Texas Department of State Health Services

Internationally Certified Alcohol & Drug Counselor # 24911
International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (AODA)

Certified MBTI® Practitioner

HeartMath Certified Practitioner

FAA Certified Private Pilot

Wilderness First Responder

CREDIT
TEACHING
ASSIGNMENTS: Dual Diagnosis – HUS1450
Introduction to Crisis Intervention – HUS2320
Domestic Violence & HIV/AIDS– HUS1356
Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth, Florida

PRINT
PUBLICATIONS: Dyben, J. (2018), Intimacy in counseling. *Counselor*. 19(5), 11-13.

Dyben, J. (2018), Running on fumes: Psychostimulant use disorder in young adults. *Social Work Today*. 18(4), 24-27.

Dyben, J. (2018), The perfect storm: Aging, drugs and chronic pain. *Today's Geriatric Medicine*. 11(2), 18-21.

Dyben, J. (2016), What we believe about addiction matters. *The Sober World*. 5(2), 14, 36.

Contributed essay "When Angels Miss" to Geidman, D. (2011). *This I believe: On fatherhood*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass. Also produced by NPR for *The Bob Edwards Show* and available at <https://thisibelieve.org/essay/25524/>

Contributed poem "The Beard" to Andrew, S., Lyme, A., Powell, D. (2008). *Men's Healing: A Toolbox For Life*. Hanley Hope Publishing
Dyben, J. (May 8, 2018), Baby boomer women caught in rising tide of alcohol. *Aging Today*. <http://www.asaging.org/blog/baby-boomer-women-caught-rising-tide-alcohol>

ELECTRONIC
PUBLICATIONS:

Dyben, J. (2018), Didn't we almost have it all: College students crashing on psychostimulants. *Recovery Campus*. <http://recoverycampus.com/didnt-almost-college-students-crashing-psychostimulants/>

Dyben, J. (June 1, 2018). *How Do You Manage Taking Prescription Medications While In Recovery?* Partnership for Drug Free Kids. <https://drugfree.org/parent-blog/how-do-you-manage-taking-prescription-medications-while-in-recovery>

Dyben, J. (November 8, 2017). *Navigating the Holidays When Your Child is in Early Recovery from Addiction*. Partnership for Drug Free Kids. <https://drugfree.org/parent-blog/navigating-the-holidays-when-your-child-is-in-early-recovery-from-addiction>

Dyben, J. (July 5, 2011). What do you want, really? *Together*. <http://www.together.us.com/2011/07/what-do-you-want-really/>

Dyben, J., Harris, J. (December 14, 2011). Sex, drugs, & rehab. *Together*. <http://www.together.us.com/2011/12/sex-drugs-rehab/>

SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS:

"Nutritional Psychology in Behavioral Healthcare"
September 2021, Cape Cod Symposium on Addictive Disorders
September 2021, West Coast Symposium on Addictive Disorders

"Running on Fumes: Young Adults and Psychostimulant Use Disorder"
November 14, 2018, National Cocaine, Meth & Stimulant Summit
August 15, 2018, Florida Behavioral Health Conference

"Foundational Ethics in Healthcare"
November 13, 2018, National Cocaine, Meth & Stimulant Summit
August 4, 2017, Florida Medical Association

"Chronic Pain and Addiction: Successful Treatment in an Aging Population"
August 13, 2018, Florida Conference on Aging
July 30, 2018, NCFADS, University of North Carolina

"Getting Past Go: Treating Addiction and 'Failure to Launch'"
July 31, 2018, NCFADS, University of North Carolina
August 16, 2017, Florida Behavioral Health Conference

"Substance Use Disorders and Related Comorbidities in Older Adults"
July 16, 2018, CORE Conference
May 13, 2016, Annual Conference, EAPA, Nova Southeastern University

"PTSD, Suicide Awareness and Crisis Intervention for First Responders"

November 6, 2017, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue

October 24, 2017, Hollywood Fire Rescue

"Addiction Epidemiology: Addiction as A Public Health Issue"

October 6, 2017, Florida Medical Association

June 15, 2017, Georgia Certification Board

"Ethically Addressing Spirituality in Clinical Counseling"

August 5, 2017, Southeastern Institute on Chemical Dependency

January 28, 2016, New York Center For Living

"Aging and Addiction: Igniting the Spirituality of Recovery"

March 22, 2016, American Society on Aging conference

"No Such Thing as a Discount Human Being"

February 11, 2016. "2016 SUD Talks" <http://www.sudtalks.org/2016-sudtalks-videos/>

"The Complexities of Substance Abuse and Addiction in Cancer Patients"

January 4, 2016, MD Anderson Hospital, Oncology Department

"Maladaptive Family Systems and Adult Children of Alcoholics"

March 7, 2014, South Florida Mental Health Providers

"Crisis Intervention for Counseling Professionals"

February 25, 2014, Baptist Health Systems, Little Rock, AK

"Gender and Age Specific Issues in Addiction and Mental Health Treatment"

June 1, 2011, NASW Conference, Fordham University

May 18, 2011, University of North Carolina

"Cultural Competency for Counseling Professionals"

September 10, 2010. Cape Cod Symposium on Addictive Disorders

"Before the Transition - Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Issues"

December 3, 2009, Nursing Home Transition Conference

"Examining Personality Disorders in Addiction"

January 14, 2009, Training Institute on Behavioral Health and Addiction

June 20, 2008, Skyland Trail

"Understanding Domestic Violence: Practical Application to Clinical Practice"

December 5, 2008, Skyland Trail

"Man's Spiritual Journey: Exploring Spirituality in A Modern Age"

April 23, 2007, "A Healthy Spirit: Healing the Bodies & Minds of Men"

**BIOGRAPHICAL
INFORMATION:**

A native Floridian, John's skill set ranges from teacher and counselor to executive and clinical supervisor. He currently serves as the Chief of Research and Innovation for Hanley Foundation. In this role, he leads research and clinical programming initiatives that assure Hanley Foundation programs remain at the leading edge of best practice in healthcare.

John's academic training includes a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, a Master of Arts in Conflict Management, a Master of Science in Management, Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy, and a Doctor of Health Science. John's doctoral practicum focused on the dynamics, epidemiology, and treatment of substance abuse and addiction in older adults. John has extensive training and experience in executive healthcare management, individual and group psychotherapy, spiritual direction, addictions counseling, and teaching.

John is a Master Certified Addictions Professional and a Certified Mental Health Professional in the State of Florida, and a Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor and Certified Clinical Supervisor in Texas. He was an adjunct faculty member in the Human Services department at Palm Beach State College for 12 years, and he served on the faculty of the Addiction Professionals Training Institute in West Palm Beach where he taught ethics, clinical skills, and pharmacology.

John speaks regularly to national audiences on a wide range of topics related to ethics, mental health, and spirituality and has presented lectures at Fordham University and the University of North Carolina.

In addition to his profession, John is a musician, writer, and a private pilot. John is a husband, father, and grandfather and he enjoys his family more than anything.

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BOARDS/COMMITTEES APPLICATION**

The information provided on this form will be used in considering your nomination. Please COMPLETE SECTION II IN FULL. Answer "none" or "not applicable" where appropriate. Please attach a biography or résumé to this form.

Section I (Department): (Please Print)

Board Name: VETERAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD Advisory Not Advisory

At Large Appointment or District Appointment / District #: _____

Term of Appointment: 3 Years. From: 3-11-25 To: 3-11-28

Seat Requirement: _____ Seat #: 10

*Reappointment or New Appointment

or to complete the term of _____ Due to: resignation other

Completion of term to expire on: _____

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Section II (Applicant): (Please Print)

APPLICANT, UNLESS EXEMPTED, MUST BE A COUNTY RESIDENT

Name: DUCHARME ERIK AUGUST
Last First Middle

Occupation/Affiliation: SELF-EMPLOYED (VETERAN)
Owner Employee Officer

Business Name: DEAL HERO, LLC

Business Address: 367 NW 42ND ST

City & State: BOLA RATON, FL Zip Code: 33431

Residence Address: 367 NW 42ND ST

City & State: BOLA RATON, FL Zip Code: 33431

Home Phone: () N/A Business Phone: () Ext.

Cell Phone: (800) 289-0889 Fax: ()

Email Address: ERIK.DUCHARME@GMAIL.COM

Mailing Address Preference: Business Residence

Have you ever been convicted of a felony: Yes _____ No X

If Yes, state the court, nature of offense, disposition of case and date: _____

Minority Identification Code: Male Female
 Native-American Hispanic-American Asian-American African-American Caucasian

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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(Attach Additional Sheet(s), if necessary)
OR

NONE



NOT APPLICABLE/
(Governmental Entity)



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AND

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*Applicant's Signature: Erik Ducharme Printed Name: ERIK DUCHARME Date: 12-05-2024

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Return this FORM to:

Section III (Commissioner, if applicable):

Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on: 1-13-25

Commissioner's Signature: Maria S. Mauer

Date: 1-3-25

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_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

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Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on:

Commissioner's Signature: [Signature]

Date: 1/10/25

Pursuant to Florida's Public Records Law, this document may be reviewed and photocopied by members of the public.

Revised 01/09/2023

CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIPS: Pursuant to Article XIII, Sec. 2-443 of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, advisory board members are prohibited from entering into any contract or other transaction for goods or services with Palm Beach County. Exceptions to this prohibition include awards made under sealed competitive bids, certain emergency and sole source purchases, and transactions that do not exceed \$500 per year in aggregate. These exemptions are described in the Code. This prohibition does not apply when the advisory board member's board provides no regulation, oversight, management, or policy-setting recommendations regarding the subject contract or transaction and the contract or transaction is disclosed at a public meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. To determine compliance with this provision, it is necessary that you, as a board member applicant, identify all contractual relationships between Palm Beach County government and you as an individual, directly or indirectly, or your employer or business. This information should be provided in the space below. If there are no contracts or transactions to report, please verify that none exist. Staff will review this information and determine if you are eligible to serve or if you may be eligible for an exception or waiver pursuant to the code.

<u>Contract/Transaction No.</u>	<u>Department/Division</u>	<u>Description of Services</u>	<u>Term</u>
<u>Example: (R/XX-XX/PO XX)</u>	<u>Parks & Recreation</u>	<u>General Maintenance</u>	<u>10/01/00-09/30/2100</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(Attach Additional Sheet(s), if necessary)
OR

NONE



NOT APPLICABLE/
(Governmental Entity)



ETHICS TRAINING: All board members are required to read and complete training on Article XIII of the Palm Beach Code, the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics. Training on the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics can be found on the web at: <http://www.palmbeachcountyethics.com/training.htm>. Ethics training is on-going, and pursuant to PPM CW-P-80 is required before appointment, and upon reappointment. All board members must also be familiar with the State of Florida Code of Ethics, (Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes), and the Florida Sunshine Law.

By signing below I agree to abide by the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, and acknowledge that I have received the required Ethics training (in the manner checked below):



By watching the training program on the Web, DVD or VHS on DEC 5 2024

By attending a live presentation given on _____, 20____

AND

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the Florida Sunshine Law and the State of Florida Code of Ethics, Chapter 112, part III of the Florida Statutes:

*Applicant's Signature: Erik Ducharme Printed Name: ERIK DUCHARME Date: 12-05-2024

Any questions and/or concerns regarding Article XIII of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics, please visit the Commission on Ethics website www.palmbeachcountyethics.com or contact us via email at ethics@palmbeachcountyethics.com or (561) 233-0724.

Return this FORM to:

Section III (Commissioner, if applicable):

Appointment to be made at BCC Meeting on:

Commissioner's Signature:

Marci Weckhard

Date:

1-9-25

Pursuant to Florida's Public Records Law, this document may be reviewed and photocopied by members of the public.

Revised 01/09/2023

To the Palm Beach County Veteran Services Advisory Board Appointment Committee,

December 5, 2024

My name is Erik Ducharme, and I am honored to submit my application for an at-large seat on the Palm Beach County Veteran Services Advisory Board. As a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, community advocate, and entrepreneur dedicated to supporting those who have served, I am eager to contribute to the board's mission of improving the coordination of services and resources for veterans across our county.

I proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 2005 to 2009, holding multiple roles during my time on active duty. I began as an Infantry Marine with 2nd Bn, 2nd Mar. As an infantry team leader during the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit deployment, I gained extensive experience in small-unit operations. Following my selection for and graduation from Scout Sniper School, I deployed to Iraq as a Sniper Team Leader, where I planned and executed missions, coordinated team efforts, and operated in high-stakes environments. Before finishing my service, I also took on the responsibility of training incoming sniper platoon members, passing on the skills and expertise necessary to ensure mission readiness.

Since leaving the military and moving to Florida in 2017, I've dedicated myself to supporting veterans in Palm Beach County. I'm the founder of DealHERO, a platform that connects veterans, military personnel, and first responders with businesses offering discounts. This work has allowed me to address financial challenges faced by the veteran community while fostering stronger ties between businesses that support the military, and those who've served.

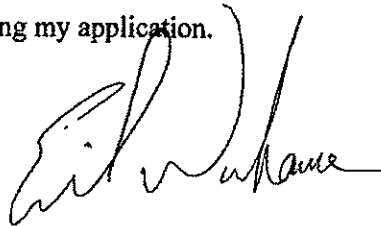
I also co-manage the Veterans of South Florida (VOSF) Facebook group (3,693 members), where I facilitate connections between veterans and resources like VA benefits, nonprofit programs, mental health support, and job opportunities. I volunteer with The 22 Project nonprofit supporting veterans recovering from traumatic brain injuries, coordinate recreational opportunities, and regularly participate in local veteran events and entrepreneurship programs at Florida Atlantic University. Further, I have also collaborated with VSAB affiliated Buzz Bryan and Jonathan Oakley in distributing resource information to the PBC veteran community.

Locally, I serve as a board member for my HOA in Boca Raton, where I've honed skills in budgeting, dispute resolution, and community improvement. I'm also active with the Boynton Beach American Legion and its Veterans Task Force, helping to promote events and resources for our community.

If selected for this board, I'd bring my skills in leadership, digital engagement, and community outreach to help improve coordination of resources and awareness of services for veterans. My goal is to ensure that every veteran in Palm Beach County has knowledge and access to the valuable resources in PBC, and I'm ready to collaborate with the board and community partners to make that happen.

Thank you for considering my application.

Respectfully,
Erik Ducharme



Palm Beach County Veteran Services Advisory Board

Seat Roster

Seat Updated 12/17/2024

VSAB Resolution Section 3: The Veteran Services Advisory Board (VSAB) member term of office shall be three years. There shall be a limit of three (3) Consecutive three-year terms that a member can serve. This provision is effective as of September 30, 2023, and applies to any member who is appointed or reappointed subsequent to that date.

{Please make sure all the members have a files with all the updated documents}

SEAT	OCCUPANT	SEAT REQUIREMENT	ORGANIZATION	CURRENT TERM EXPIRES	TERM LEFT AFTER CURRENT TERM EXPIRES	DEMOGRAPHIC INFO
1	Vacant	Member who represents an organization that provides Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder/Suicide Prevention		09/30/2026		
2	Michael Durkee	Member who represents an organization that provides Financial/Emergency Financial Services	Wounded Veteran Relief Fund	09/30/2026	2	WM
3	Vacant	Member who represents an organization that provides Housing Services		09/30/2026	3	
4	Melva Rosier	Member who represents an organization that provides Support Services	PBC Legal Aid Society	09/30/2026	2	BF
5	Richard (Buzz) Bryan	Member who represents the West Palm Beach Veteran Affairs Medical Center	VA	09/30/2026	3	WM
6	Evan Fried	Member who represents an organization that provides Mobility Assistance Services	Big Dog Ranch	09/30/2025	3	WM

Palm Beach County Veteran Services Advisory Board Seat Roster

SEAT	OCCUPANT	NON-ELECTED COMMUNITY LEADERS: SEATS 7-10	ORGANIZATION	CURRENT TERM EXPIRES	TERM LEFT AFTER CURRENT TERM EXPIRES	DEMOGRAPHIC INFO.
7	Julia Dattolo	Member who represents an organization that provides Employment Services	Career Source of PBC	09/30/2025	3	WF
8	Raul Leon	Member who represents an organization that provides Public Safety Services	PBC Fire Rescue	09/30/2025	3	HM
9	John Schrey	At Large Member	Veteran	09/30/2025	2	WM
10	Vacant	At Large Member		09/30/2026	3	
11	Henry Angulo	At Large Member	The Fire Watch	09/30/2027	2	HM

Demographic info key: BF= Black Female, BM= Black Male, HAIF= Haitian Female, HAIM= Haitian Male, WF= White Female, WM= White Male, HISF= Hispanic Female, HISM= Hispanic Male, M= Multi-Race, APIF= Asian Pacific Islander Fem

RESOLUTION NO. R-2023- 116 2

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, CREATING THE PALM BEACH COUNTY VETERAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD; PROVIDING FOR A PURPOSE; PROVIDING FOR MEMBERSHIP, APPOINTMENTS, TERMS; PROVIDING FOR OFFICERS; PROVIDING FOR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES; PROVIDING FOR SUNSHINE LAW, CODE OF ETHICS; PROVIDING FOR MEETINGS; PROVIDING FOR SUBCOMMITTEES; PROVIDING FOR GENERAL PROVISIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE, SUNSET.

WHEREAS, Florida has the 3rd largest veteran population in the United States; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2021 demographics of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, there are 1,492,000 veterans in the State of Florida, with 753,000 veterans age 65 years and over, and Palm Beach County has a recorded 72,340 veterans; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey, more than one-quarter (29%) of all veterans in Florida lived in households experiencing financial hardship in 2019, while 6% were below the Federal Poverty Level, and an additional 23%, (nearly 4 times as many), were Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE); and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Palm Beach County Homeless Point-in-Time Count showed an increase in veteran homelessness, with veterans comprising nearly 10% of Palm Beach County's homeless population; and

WHEREAS, according to records from the Florida Department of Health's Fire Watch Project, 6,850 Florida veterans committed suicide from 2010 to 2020; and

WHEREAS, many veterans struggle with accessing benefits that may assist with health issues, employment, and other human services support; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) through its Community Services Department (CSD) established the Division of Senior and Veteran Services (DSVS), and in accordance with Section 292.11, Florida Statutes, the DSVS works in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to provide Veteran Service Officers; and

WHEREAS, Veteran Service Officers assist and counsel former and current members of the U.S. Armed Forces who reside in Palm Beach County, and assist military veterans and their dependents in preparing and filing claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to obtain benefits to which the veterans are entitled under federal, state, and local laws; and

WHEREAS, the BCC seeks to establish a Veteran Services Advisory Board to periodically assess the needs of veterans in Palm Beach County and provide a more efficient coordination amongst service providers in order to address needs identified.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. Purpose. There is hereby established an Advisory Board to be known as the "Palm Beach County Veteran Services Advisory Board (VSAB)."

Section 2. Roles and Responsibilities. The VSAB shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

- A. Collect information related to veterans in Palm Beach County and provide that information with input and guidance to the BCC, along with recommendations on responding to the County's veteran population.
- B. Advise the BCC on needs of local veterans and resources available to local veterans.
- C. Increase the coordination and interactions between organizations, agencies, and institutions whose mission it is to assist veterans and their families in Palm Beach County.
- D. If requested by the BCC, provide recommendations on positions the BCC may take on local, state and federal legislation.
- E. To perform such other duties as may be required from time to time assigned by the BCC.

Section 3. Membership. The VSAB shall be comprised of eleven (11) members who represent as wide an array as possible of the public sector and private sector organizations whose mission is to assist veterans and their families. All members must reside in Palm Beach County at the time of appointment and while serving on the VSAB. Membership shall be representative of the racial, ethnic and geographic diversity of Palm Beach County. All members must have knowledge of at least one component of the support services available to assist veterans and their dependents. The membership shall consist of:

- A. One (1) member who represents an organization that provides Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder/Suicide Prevention services to veterans (Seat 1).
- B. One (1) member who represents an organization that provides Financial/Emergency Financial Assistance services to veterans (Seat 2).
- C. One (1) member who represents an organization that provides Housing services to veterans (Seat 3).
- D. One (1) member who represents an organization that provides Support services to veterans (Seat 4).
- E. One (1) member who represents the Veterans Affairs West Palm Beach Healthcare System (Seat 5).
- F. One (1) member who represents an organization that provides Mobility Assistance services to veterans (Seat 6).
- G. One (1) member who represents an organization that provides Employment services to veterans (Seat 7).
- H. One (1) member who represents an organization that provides Public Safety services to veterans (Seat 8). This member may be an employee of Palm Beach County.
- I. Three (3) at large members, at least two of whom are veterans (Seat 9, 10, & 11).
- J. Appointment and Termination. Members shall be appointed at large by the BCC, and serve staggered terms of three (3) years, with a limit of three (3) consecutive three (3)-year terms. Vacancies occurring during a term shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term, and

shall not count toward the member's term limits. All members of the VSAB shall serve at the pleasure of the Board of County Commissioners and may be removed without cause at any time.

K. Attendance. Members shall be automatically removed for lack of attendance. Lack of attendance is defined as failure to attend three (3) consecutive meetings or failure to attend more than one-half of the meetings scheduled during a calendar year. Participation in less than three-fourths of a meeting shall be the same as a failure to attend a meeting. Members removed pursuant to this paragraph shall not continue to serve on the VSAB and such removal shall create a vacancy.

L. Conflict of Interest. Members shall be governed by the applicable provisions of the Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees and the applicable provisions of the Palm Beach County Code of Ethics.

Section 4. Officers. A Chair and Vice-chair shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the VSAB and shall serve for a term of one (1) year, but not to exceed two (2) consecutive terms in any one office. The duties of the chair shall be to:

- A. Call VSAB meetings and organize the agenda for the meetings,
- B. Preside at VSAB meetings,
- C. Serve as primary liaison to CSD staff,
- D. Perform other functions as the VSAB may suggest, and
- E. Establish subcommittees, appoint subcommittee chairs, and charge subcommittees with specific tasks.

The Vice-chair shall perform the duties of the Chair in the Chair's absence, and such other duties as the Chair may assign. If a vacancy occurs in the office of the Chair, then the Vice-chair shall assume the position of Chair for the remainder of the term. A vacancy in the office of Vice-chair shall be filled through a majority vote of the membership.

Section 5. Sunshine Law, Codes of Ethics. The VSAB is subject to Florida's Sunshine Law. Reasonable public notice of all meetings, including subcommittee meetings, shall be provided, as required by the Sunshine Law, and all meetings shall be open to the public and minutes shall be taken. Records are subject to public disclosure. Members of the VSAB shall comply with the State's Code of Ethics found in Chapter 112, Part III of the Florida Statutes, as well as the Palm Beach County's Code of Ethics codified in Sections 2-254 through 2-260 of the Palm Beach County Code.

Section 6. Meetings. The VSAB shall meet quarterly, or as needed, as determined by a majority of the membership. A quorum, as established by ordinance must be present for the conduct of all meetings. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern meetings.

Section 7. Subcommittees. The VSAB shall be as self-sufficient as possible in that there is no budget for its function. To this end, to carry out its duties, the creation of subcommittees is encouraged. Members shall receive no compensation for services.

Section 8. Administration. Staff for the VSAB shall be provided through the Community Services Department.

Section 9. General Provisions. All members of the VSAB shall comply with the Uniform Policies and Procedures governing advisory bodies as set forth in Resolution No. 2013-0193, and any amendments thereto. Members will be provided a copy of the resolution and are expected to become familiar with the various requirements, including the provision for automatic removal for lack of attendance, conduct of meetings, and compliance with state and local laws pertaining to financial disclosure and other requirements. The VSAB is not established to duplicate efforts that County programs and departments were established to address. No member shall represent the VSAB before any governmental body or public or private entity or group unless approved to do so by a majority vote of the membership.

Section 10. Effective Date and Sunset. This Resolution shall become effective upon approval by a majority vote of the Board of County Commissioners, Palm Beach County, Florida. The VSAB will sunset five (5) years from the effective date unless the BCC extends its service through official action.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner Woodward, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sachs, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Gregg K. Weiss, Mayor	-	<u>Aye</u>
Maria Sachs, Vice Mayor	-	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Maria G. Marino	-	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Michael A. Barnett	-	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Marci Woodward	-	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Sara Baxter	-	<u>Aye</u>
Commissioner Mack Barnard	-	<u>Aye</u>

The Mayor thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this egnd day of August, 2023.

ATTEST:

CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
Joseph Abruzzo

By: [Signature]
Clerk of Court & Comptroller
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM
LEGAL SUMMARY

By: Helene C. Hvizd
Assistant County Attorney

PALM BEACH COUNTY, Florida
By its Board of County Commissioners

By: [Signature]
Gregg K. Weiss, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

By: [Signature]
Reginald K. Duren
Assistant County Administrator