

The Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

In the matter of Recognizing the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office on their 75th Anniversary.

Resolution No. 2022/391

WHEREAS, in 1926, San Bernardino County established the first County Veterans Service Office (CVSO) in California, and between World War I and World War II, at least ten other counties with large veteran populations also established CVSO offices; and

WHEREAS, by the end of World War II, most California counties had established CVSO offices, and with the return of thousands of World War II veterans to California, the California Association of County Veteran Service Officers (CACVSO) was formed to assist veterans in accessing entitlements as authorized by the United States Congress, such as the GI Bill for education and veterans home loan programs, as well as compensation and pension benefits for wounded veterans and their families; and

WHEREAS, in addition to promoting state and federal legislation and policies supportive of veterans' rights, the CACVSO provides a medium for the exchange of ideas, information, training, and support to facilitate the delivery of services to nearly two million California Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa CVSO follows the mission of the CACVSO; and

WHEREAS, while recognizing the importance and merit of the congressionally chartered veterans service organizations, the Contra Costa VSO is committed to fostering a mutually beneficial relationship for the common good of all veterans, and it is the intent of all these organizations that veterans residing in California receive the benefits and service to which they are entitled by law and moral obligation; and

WHEREAS, in Contra Costa, the CVSO plays a critical role in the veterans' advocacy system and are often the initial contact in the community for veterans' services, and they work closely with the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) to assist California's veterans in obtaining federal and state benefits, with CVSOs services as the "boots on the ground;" and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa CVSO promotes the welfare and rights of veterans through legislative advocacy, providing training and education to their employees, and collaborating with a network of resources, information, and ideas; and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa CVSO has experienced a high demand for services, from the beginning, and all who have served here are dedicated employees who treat veterans, and their families, with respect and compassion; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Contra Costa CVSO never stopped providing services to our veterans, moving all their services to a virtual office format, via zoom, to assist the community; and

WHEREAS, Contra Costa CVSO, with a staff of 13, provides services to a veterans population of 47,863; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, 2,279 new veterans' claims were submitted and \$17,683,945 was awarded to the veterans, with an average claim of \$7,760 awarded; and

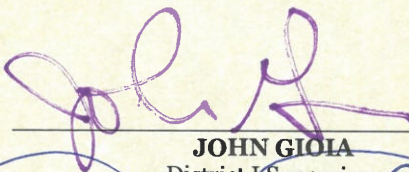
WHEREAS, current Contra Costa County Veteran Service Officer, Nathan Johnson, hosts the award-winning show "Veterans' Voices" on CCTV. The show highlights and speaks on various topics that are relevant to the veteran community; and


WHEREAS, Contra Costa CVSO has always been a stand-alone department for the County with an excellent reputation as one of the very best County Veteran Service Offices, within the United States; and

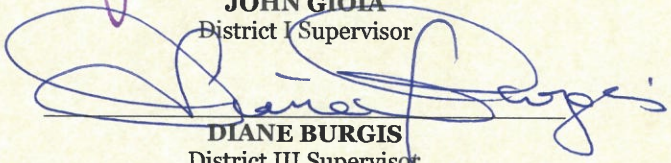
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby commend the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office for its 75 years of service to veterans and their families in Contra Costa County, through the advancement of professionalism within its ranks, and the pursuit of advocacy, across all levels of government, ensuring that veterans may receive the benefits to which they are entitled, by virtue of their military service to the country.

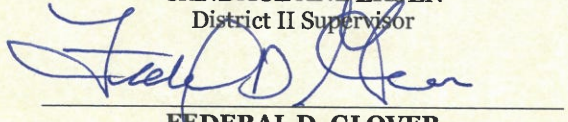
PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 8th day of November 2022.

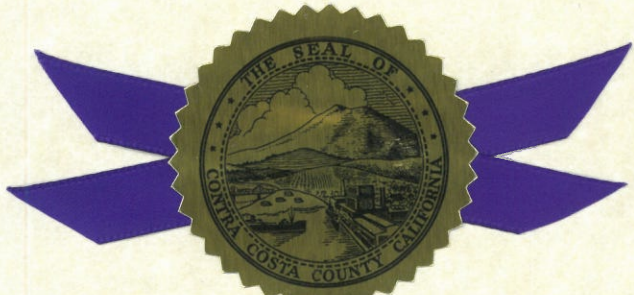

KAREN MITCHOFF
Chair,
District IV Supervisor


JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor


CANDACE ANDERSEN
District II Supervisor


DIANE BURGIS
District III Supervisor


FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor



I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown:

ATTESTED: November 8, 2022

MONICA NINO, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By , Deputy