This letter is to announce my candidacy for KWVA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to serve from June 25, 2018-June 25, 2020. I am a Life Member (# LR35528) so therefore my dues are paid to present date. If elected, I promise to attend all called meetings and understand that two unexcused absences could result in my removal from office. I am releasing the KWVA application form for verification of eligible service years.

I joined the US Army in 1982 and was Honorably discharged in 1989 as a Corporal. I worked as a Team Leader, Squad Leader and temporary Platoon Sgt as Indirect Fire Infantryman, Infantryman and Infantry Scout. After my Initial Infantry and AIT Training at Fort Benning Ga, I was stationed at Schofield Barracks Hawaii with the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division (Light), 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division, Camp Garry Owens, Korea and 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Massachusetts National Guard. I deployed to Australia, Japan and the Big Island of Hawaii and worked with soldiers from New Zealand, Korea, Japan, Australia and the Gurkha's based out of Hong Kong during my Army career. I am a recipient of the Korean Defense Service Medal and member of the VFW, American Legion, AMVETS, AUSA, 2<sup>nd</sup> ID Assn and 25<sup>th</sup> ID Assn.

After the military, I worked as a security officer for Westin and Marriott Hotels in Downtown Boston before I spent over a decade on the United States Postal Service Boston. While working at the USPS , I attended UMass-Boston after work for 12 years and obtained an Associate's Degree, 2 Bachelor of Arts Degrees , Master of Arts Degree , 2 Certificates of Advanced Graduate Studies and 2 National Honor Societies. I was recently awarded the William Joiner Award for Excellence for Service to our Veterans.

In 1999, I joined the Korea Defense Veterans of America that spearheaded the movement for the Korean Defense Service Medal, became a KDVA National Officer and founded its only chapter which eventually became Korea War Veterans Association Chapter # 299. In 2005, I was elected KWVA National Director for 2 terms 2005-2011. I was National Membership Chairman from 2005-2010 and 7000 members were brought in under my leadership. I was also National Ceremonies Chairman 2005-2008 and started the KWVA Color Guard for ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and the Korean War Veterans Memorial. I and my chapter, KWVA Chapter# 299 obtained many co-sponsors for the KWVA Federal Charter which was signed into law on June 28, 2008. Presently, I am KWVA National 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and coordinating erecting memorials for Korea Defense and Korea War Veterans.

I am happily married to my wife Maura who served in the US Navy and have 2 children. My daughter Colleen is married and has 3 children who brings us great joy as grandparents. Vincent served and was wounded in Iraq with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. He has had 46 operations mostly due to severe Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) when a building he entered was blown up by Insurgents.

I have a lot of experience in the KWVA and have been loyal and dedicated to the KWVA for over a decade. I need the support of every member that wants the KWVA to continue to honor our history. I thank you for consideration and support. Make your vote count.

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