

Declaration of Candidacy for Department Surgeon

Comrades,

My name is Joe Jimenez and I am asking for your support in my run for Department of WA Surgeon for 2020-2021. I am the Past Post Commander of VFW Post 969 in Tacoma for 2018-2019. We attained the recognition of All-American Post during my year as Commander. The last time our Post attained this recognition was 2003.

I have been a life member of the VFW since December 2012.

I served honorably on active duty as a U.S. Marine from 1986 to 1996. My eligibility for membership in the VFW stems from my deployment to Operations Desert Storm.

I have been a resident of WA State since my last duty assignment at NSB Bangor while assigned with the Marine Corps Security Forces Company beginning June 1993.

I am a former federal employee with 30 years of service under my belt. My military service coupled with employment with the US Postal Service and with the U.S. Dept Veteran Affairs covers this timeframe.

In late 2016, Past State Commander Elmer Clark asked me about working for the Department as a Service Officer. I had plenty of experience working on my own claim. I was able to collaborate with coworkers at the Seattle VA Regional Office during my employment there and I still call on them from time to time pertaining to the claim process. I graciously accepted Commander Clark's invitation. I applied and interviewed for this position. I am currently employed as an Assistant Department Service Officer and I work at our Dept HQ.

I am currently the VAVS Chairman for the VAMC American Lake and Madigan AMC. I have worked collectively with members of District 3 to help with providing assistance to Voluntary Services at the VAMC.

I provided monetary assistance on behalf of the Dept of WA VFW. Support was provided to the Domiciliary, the Community Living Center and LGBTQ coordinator with support with their various events.

I am currently on the Governors Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee as Member At Large. The VAAC has been instrumental in coordinating and facilitating Town Hall Meetings throughout the State of WA from coast to coast. I have participated in Town Hall Meetings in Sequim, Pasco and Colville. I have represented the VAAC in presenting monetary awards to Posts that submitted for Emblem funds.

I have travelled all over our state visiting our Veterans Soldiers Homes and Cemeteries. I am always amazed by the efforts of our Membership with supporting these vital locations with support on volunteering both monetarily and of their own volition.

That being said, I again ask for your support in my bid for Department of WA Surgeon for the ensuing year.

Thank you,

Joe Jimenez

