THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

December 5, 2024

Mr. Peter Chow
63 Flamenco
Irvine, CA 92620

Dear Mr. Chow:

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a member of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials (Committee). It is my pleasure to appoint you to serve a two-year term starting January 1, 2025 through January 31, 2027.

38 U.S.C. § 2401 authorizes the Committee to advise me on issues involving the operation of VA's national cemeteries, soldiers' lots and plots, the selection of cemetery sites, the erection of appropriate memorials, and the adequacy of Federal burial benefits.

Enclosed are the Committee's charter and the ethics rules for employees who are Special Government Employees. The charter provides basic information on the Committee's purpose and responsibilities, and information regarding reimbursement for travel and expenses. You will also receive in-person training from the Office of General Counsel during your first Committee meeting in the Spring 2025. Please review the enclosed materials at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions concerning your appointment, please contact Ms. Faith Hopkins, Designated Federal Officer, at 202-603-4499 or Faith.Hopkins@va.gov.

Thank you for your willingness to serve the Nation's Veterans. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Denis McDonough

Enclosures

Objectives and Scope of Activities

To furnish consultation and advice to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs regarding the administration of the national cemeteries, soldier's lots and plots which are the responsibility of the Secretary, and regarding the selection of new national cemetery construction sites, the erection of appropriate memorials and the adequacy of Federal funding for operation of the National Cemetery Administration.

ACCM Committee Members

Gina Farrisee, Chair



Virginia

Paul Adkins



Arizona

Amerophan Callahan



Arizona

Peter Chow



California

Learn what the PACT Act means for your VA benefits »

Hello,

Please welcome the newest Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials newest members appointed December 5th. We hope to see them at January's administrative 2025 meeting.

Mr. Peter Chow is the advisory board member for the Loyola Marymount University Digital Veterans Legacy Project where he contributes to the development of digital media programs for education purposes. Additionally, he is the First Vice Commander, American Legion Post, Chinatown 628 leading and coordinating support for Veterans. Mr. Chow is an advocate for equitable services and community support, addressing challenges by Chinese and Asian immigrants in the U.S. President of the China Higher Education Foundation. Mr. Chow is a U.S. Army Veteran awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroism at Quang Tri, Vietnam. Mr. Chow resides in Irvine, CA.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CEMETERIES AND MEMORIALS ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING – JANUARY 16, 2025

- Welcome & Opening Remarks – Chair, Gina Farrisee
- FACA 101 – Jelessa Burney
- Open Discussion - Committee
- Closing Remarks – Chair, Gina Farrisee



ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CEMETERIES AND MEMORIALS ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING – JANUARY 16, 2025

- Welcome New Members!
  - Peter Chow
  - Arthur Jackson
- Financial Disclosure OGE 450 – *Paper forms are no longer accepted. Faith did not see all members names on the email however we are due. Faith will resolve upon return with OGC as we were not notified.*
- ACCM Recommendation w/ 10th floor
- Spring 2025 Site Visit Reminder
  - April 2-3, 2025
  - Monte Calvario Veterans Cemetery (Pascua Yaqui Tribe) and Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery at Marana confirmed
- Agenda items requested

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CEMETERIES AND MEMORIALS ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING – JANUARY 16, 2025

Subcommittee Assignments – effective January 2025

Funeral Director and Unclaimed Veteran Remains	Outreach	State and Tribal Veteran Cemeteries
Thomas Hernandez – Chair	Jared Peatman – Chair	Alvin Duncan – Chair
Candace Wheeler	Paul Adkins	Ame Callahan
Karen King	Gina Farrisee	William Kennedy
Arthur Jackson	Monica Mohindra	Peter Chow

CLOSING REMARKS