

Nomination for "City of Chula Vista Veteran of the Year (VOY)"

(Please Print – Information contained will be used for publication and press related materials)

Date: 11 September 2023

Submitting Organization/Corporation Information			
Organization Name:	N/A		
Organization Point of Contact:	First Lynne	Last Pine	
Organization Mailing Address:	Street Address [REDACTED]		
	City Chula Vista	State CA	Zip Code [REDACTED]
Organization Contact Info	Phone [REDACTED]	Phone [REDACTED]	Email [REDACTED]
Organization Website (if applicable):			
Veteran of the Year (VOY) Nominee Information			
Selection of your Veteran of the Year (VOY) is to be determined by your organization or agency. <i>Request only one submitted nominee from each organization or agency.</i>			
Nominee Name:	First Malcolm	Middle Initial J	Last Suggs
U.S. Military Branch of Service:	<input type="checkbox"/> Army <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Corps <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Navy <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard		
Rank/Rate: E7/CPO	Period(s) of Service:	From (Month Year) Feb/2007	To (Month Year) Sep/2023
		From (Month Year)	To (Month Year)
Nominee Mailing Address:	Street Address [REDACTED]		
	City Chula Vista	State CA	Zip Code [REDACTED]
Nominee Contact Info	Phone (Home) [REDACTED]	Phone (Cell) [REDACTED]	Email [REDACTED]
Personal information of all entrants is important to the VOY selection process. <i>All personal information will remain private and safeguarded from unauthorized disclosure beyond the purpose of the board.</i>			
Nomination Eligibility/Submission Criteria			
Why Should Your Veteran of the Year Be Selected?			
Eligibility Criteria: For consideration as the City of Chula Vista Veteran of the Year, your nominee must be a veteran honorably discharged from U.S. Military Service, employed within or a resident of the City of Chula Vista, and a citizen who has made significant contributions to the community since military service. Emphasis should be placed on nominee's accomplishments that support your organization's service to the community, individual contributions to the local community and support of the Veterans community of San Diego.			
Supporting Documentation: Remember, whether the judges know your veteran or not, the nomination submission package should provide all information necessary for the judges to make their decision without seeking further information. Each nomination package should include two photographs (one in uniform from military service; one of nominee present day) and a narrative highlighting the nominee's contributions. Highlight special characteristics of the nominee that makes him/her an asset to the Veterans Community of Chula Vista (i.e. leadership, professionalism, fairness, integrity, ethics, respect, and trustworthiness). If your nominee is employed, please provide a current job description. Describe contributions to co-workers and/or other organization members, involvement in the organization activities and special contributions to the organization. Describe community service (i.e. participation in church, youth, school, civic activities and other volunteer efforts).			
Please provide a completed copy of this application/form to your Veteran of the Year.			
Submit completed package (including all items addressed above) by September 11 th (of the year of submission) to:			
City of Chula Vista c/o Fire Department Attn: <u>Veterans Advisory Commission</u> 276 Fourth Avenue Chula Vista, CA 91910			
Staff POC: Alyssa Moreno / Phone: (619) 409-5839 / Email: <u>CVVeterans@ChulaVistaCA.gov</u>			

Narrative in support of Chula Vista 2023 Veteran of the Year ICO Malcolm J. Suggs

- Malcolm Suggs is a resident of the City of Chula Vista and is a stellar citizen who is continually impacting and making significant positive contributions to our community. Despite a grueling work schedule, he demonstrates constant support of the local community, giving back wherever he is able and championing the residents throughout the South Bay. Notably, he was recently selected as one of a select group of 1,529 applicants for a U.S. Navy commission as Information Professional Chief Warrant Officer in recognition of his professional skills and role-model dedication to supporting and raising up those around him. Demonstrating outstanding leadership and mentoring skills, Malcolm Jamal Suggs is the epitome of support to his family, his community, and his profession.

Here are but a few of the significant things he has accomplished as a role model citizen of Chula Vista:

- As a result of COVID and the widespread local food establishments going out of business, he did the hard work to establish one of the first Chula Vista/San Diego home-based MEKHKO's (Micro Enterprise Home Kitchen Operations). This program was established by Governor Brown on Assembly Bill 626, the California Retail Food Code: Microenterprise Home Kitchen Operations (MEHKO). It established MEHKO as a new category of retail food facility, requiring a stringent program with operations and services being permitted under arduous and strict scrutiny for public food service operations. San Diego County featured Malcolm Suggs as one of the first successful MEHKO enterprises in its 2023 Memorial Day launch. Soon after the San Diego MEHKO permitting process was approved, he became an official MEHKO last year, despite a grueling Navy career, attending college, and supporting his family. His home business serves between 20-30 Chula Vista community families each week, serving them nostalgic and comforting BBQ meals, often serving as a bridge between displaced citizens such as military and the comforts of home.
- Mentored three businesses as part of San Diego Miramar College and San Diego Food Justice Institute's Get Cooking Cohorts 3 & 4. These are 8-week classes that take businesses through marketing, branding, budgeting and other steps necessary to start a business. He spent 16 weeks coaching and providing feedback on marketing, digital advertising and branding and customer relations.
- Raised several hundred dollars to support a meal give back for local elementary school students during winter break. Cooked and gave away 60 meals to local children, positively contributing to the tenet "leaving no child hungry."

- Participated in St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital's "July Grilling Challenge" Fundraiser. Raised more than One Thousand Dollars toward a campaign goal of \$200. During this 4-week nation-wide challenge, the intent was to use weekly grilling challenges to raise awareness for the hospital and its mission of ensuring families don't have to pay for treatment in the event of using the hospital. Finished the campaign in the Top Five of over 5,500 fundraising participants nationwide.
- Used his skills for a local Chula Vista "website giveaway" which supported two local food-based businesses. He personally donated his services to provide crucial web-based services for their small businesses. Currently working with the owners of businesses to design a website for each, allowing their businesses to leverage digital marketing and web presence to increase sales. Donated several thousand dollars' worth of web-based design and hosting to each of the two businesses. Provided countless hours of mentorship in online marketing, focusing on use of web-based ordering and marketing to drive sales and increase profitability for these small, home-based entrepreneurs.
- In addition to his MEHKO business, he is pursuing qualifications for Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) (Information Technology/ Cybersecurity certification)



