

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation of Los Gatos is Formed, A Foundation Where Courage and Compassion Intersect**

**Los Gatos, California  
March 12, 2013**

The Internal Revenue Service just granted 501(c)(3) non-profit status to a small committee of veterans and patriotic volunteers who recently gave birth to a new Foundation known as the Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation of Los Gatos. Los Gatos is a small town with just over 30,400 residents located in Northern California.

The Foundation, led by Vietnam Veteran Mike Frangadakis who continues to actively serve in the California State Military Reserve, intends to erect and manage in perpetuity, a memorial in downtown Los Gatos, one that celebrates freedom and gives tribute to service members and veterans of the United States military. The memorial will ideally recognize the courage and loyalty demonstrated by the brave men and women who have fought in conflicts, cataclysmic war and in so many ways, defend the freedom that defines America. The organization also plans to conduct celebrations in connection with national holidays that serve to educate the community on the spirit of those who have put so much on the line to rise to the limitless horizons of freedom. And of paramount importance, the Foundation has been formed to support the critical needs of service members, Veterans and their families.

According to Foundation Attorney, Michael S. Bays, "Some non-profit applications take well over a year for approval. It is not unheard of for a review to require longer periods for complex entities." In December, when the Foundation submitted their application, the IRS informed candidates that they were then reviewing 501(c)(3) applications submitted in February 2012. The Foundation received its approval in record time, 69 days from date of postmark, which suggests that the IRS is attempting to be responsive to public desire to support the needs of the deserving men and women in America's military.

The Los Gatos Town Council unanimously authorized the Foundation to consult with artists to develop memorial designs for consideration for implementation in a prominent place in Town. "The right to build a memorial in Town is both a profound privilege and responsibility" said Ellen Manzo, Foundation Volunteer. "By this right, the Foundation becomes the reservoir and resonator of important chapters of American history. In a sense, one might say that the Foundation is about service on the frontlines - as warriors and as humanitarians - and even more, about the courage and compassion of the individuals behind it."

Readers can learn more information about the Foundation and how to participate in this worthwhile endeavor by contacting John Bond, Foundation Recruitment Chair at email address: [jsbond@johnsbondmd.com](mailto:jsbond@johnsbondmd.com).

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