SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



FROM: Supervisor Stone

SUBMITTAL DATE: August 15, 2013

SUBJECT: Waive **A**dmissions Involving **V**eteran's Entry (W.A.I.V.E.)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors directs the County Executive Officer and county departments, agencies, and special districts to discount/waive the following admissions for honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard, Federal, or State reserve forces who qualify for federal and/or state veteran benefits.

- 1. Waive permits for federally recognized Military Service Organizations when using county facilities that promote patriotic military events and services for veterans and their families; and
- 2. Waive one-time general admission to the County of Riverside Fair and National Date Festival for the Veteran and up to three additional guests on a yearly basis; and
- 3. Waive one-time admission for the Veteran and up to three additional guests at the Edward Dean Museum & Gardens on a yearly basis; and
- 4. Waive one-time admission to county owned aquatics centers and/or facilities for the Veteran and up to three additional guests on a yearly basis; and

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Supervisor, Third District

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- 5. Waive one-time boat launching privileges for the Veteran at any county owned or operated boat launch ramp on Veterans and/or Memorial Day annually; and
- 6. Waive parking fees for Veterans visiting county offices for business with the County of Riverside in county owned garages and parking lot; and
- 7. Waive day-use admission to Riverside County parks for disabled Veterans on an unlimited basis; and
- 8. WAIVE will be implemented by the Executive Officer, County of Riverside, on/or before Veterans Day 2013.

BACKGROUND: The County of Riverside is the home to many Veterans of the United States Army, United States Marine Corps, United States Navy, United States Air Force, and the United States Coast Guard. It is also home to many veterans of the National Guard and Federal Military Reserve components. We are also the proud home to numerous military installations, armories, and our national cemetery. The men and women, who were honorably discharged, have earned the title of "Veteran" in accordance with United States and California Veterans Codes. The federal government has many programs and policies that recognize our Veterans and provides numerous earned benefits. Regretfully, the State of California ranks at the bottom in benefits for Veterans compared to the other 49 states and four U.S. Territories provided to Veterans of the U.S. and its own State Military Forces. While we cannot set a state law, we can regulate and establish programs recognizing our Veterans and the sacrifices they made during times of war and peace. While freedom is not free, we can make many of the venues in the county easily accessible to our patriotic Veterans. Verifying documents for proof of service of earned Veteran benefits shall be a DD 214, U.S. Veterans Administration ID Card, Honorable Discharge Certificate issued by the federal government, State of California (or any of the 50 states in the United States and U.S. Territories), or a Riverside County military identification card. When DD 214, NGB Form 22 or Honorable Discharge Certificate is used as source documents, a photo identification card or driver's license is required for proof of identification and Riverside County residency.