



Jefferson County Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Information

Full Name: Marcus Reed

Office Sought: County Commissioner District 10

Website / Campaign Page: None

1. Why are you running for this office?

Please describe your motivation and what qualifies you for this position

When elected to County Commissioner 10th District in 2018, I promised integrity, transparency, and leadership in serving and representing not just the citizens of the 10th District; but all of Jefferson County citizens. I believe I have lived up to those standards. My desire is to serve not be served! My almost 8 years of service as Commissioner, 8 years of service as Jefferson County E-911 Director and 27 years of service as a Marine more than qualify me for office.

2. Military Service

Are you a Veteran? Yes No

If yes, please provide:

- Branch of Service: United States Marine Corps
- Dates of Service: December 1967 to August 1994
- Areas Served: Vietnam, Japan, Okinawa, islands Southeast Asia and Duty Stations in United States
- Highest Rank / Position Held: LTCOL
- Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) or Equivalent: 2336/2305 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Enlisted/Officer
- Awards or Decorations (optional):

3. Previous Support of Veterans

If you have served in an elected position in this Jefferson County or any other political offices in the past, what have you done to support Veterans?

Support the "Grateful Nation Project" recognizing and honoring hometown heroes killed in action in all U.S. Wars and their relatives and descendants (Gold Star families).

Sponsored County Resolution to the Tennessee State Legislator to continue fully funding Disabled Veterans/Elderly Tennessee Tax Relief Program.

Had the honor to serve on committee to review resumes and select the or present VSO. She was unanimously confirmed by review committee and County Commission.

Have taken part in and attended many Veteran Events/Functions. Assisted in "Night of Patriots" honoring WWII and Korean Veterans.

Visited Veterans at County Assisted Living and Nursing homes numerus times to assist in VA issues and especially the camaraderie us Veterans share.

4. Priorities to Support Veterans

Jefferson County has a growing veteran population of more than 4,000 veterans. Please outline your top 3 priorities to support veterans and their families.

Continue being active in support of our VSO and Assistance VSO from County Commission position to ensure they have the majority support from Commission. Some say they support Veterans and, but if you look at voting - do they really?

Will attempt to work with new County Mayor after election to find room in existing a County facility to provide a larger office space and ensure extremely private interactions between living veterans and family members of deceased Veterans can be handled in a secure/private setting with no danger of being overheard.

Strive to ensure our Veterans are honored by the County leadership on Independence Day, Memorial Day, And Veterans Day, even with assisting in funding if necessary. We missed recognizing a number of living WWII and Korean War over the last eight years.

5. Veteran Services and Resources

What specific actions would you take to improve access to veteran services at the county level?

Larger facility, office space and security. Allow VSO to do their job taking care of our Veterans. They are experts in Veterans rules and regulations, County Commission is not.

6. Veterans Service Officer (VSO)

What do you know about the Veterans Service Officer (VSO) program in Jefferson County and do you have a stance on reporting structure or if this should be a Director position?

I am very familiar with VSO program in Jefferson County and I recognize the fact our VSO is doing an outstanding job in handling a huge caseload. She follows strict protocols in interviewing individual veterans or families of deceased. I am very thankful County Commission funded the Assistant VSO who is now serving.

I plan on presenting a Resolution to County Commission dictating the following:

County VSO title will be - Director, Jefferson County Veterans Service Office

Director will report to County Mayor

County Commission will be responsible for hiring, firing, or discipling with majority vote if needed

What would you do to strengthen and support the VSO to ensure Veterans receive timely and effective assistance?

Be available to listen to any Veteran, family of Veteran, and continue to support our VSO in checking up, visiting, and assisting home bound Veteran.

7. Additional Veteran-Related Issues

Please identify any other veteran-related issues you believe need attention in Jefferson County and how you would address them.

8. Closing Statement or short biography

(Optional) I am a life member of VFW Post 3380, Life Member of DAV, and Life Member of MOAA. I served as enlisted from 1967 to January 1977. As a Marine Mustang LTCOL, I was piped overboard by senior enlisted of all four services at Naval School EOD Indian Head Maryland after reviewing an evening parade of all four services. Needless to say. I have tremendous respect and love for my brother and sister in arms of all services! Semper Fi!

Signature: _____ Marcus Reed _____ Date: _____ 03/12/2026 _____