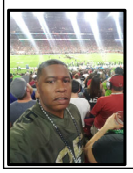
Tacoma City Council
Veterans Local Government Management Fellowship
Back-Brief

SGM Eugene Mustin

Tacoma

1. *Intro*
2. *Facts and Assumptions*
3. *Expectations*
4. *What Actually Happened*
5. *Way Ahead*
6. *Takeaways*
7. *Questions*

- *Tacoma Native*
- *Enlisted at 18*
- *26yr Career*
- *Signal / Recruiting*
- *5 Deployments*
- *Bachelor's – Bus. Admin / Management & Master's – Public Admin*
- *Desire to help city/state*



WHAT IS THE VLGMF PROGRAM?

The Veterans Local Government Management Fellowship is a 12-to-25-week Department of Defense SkillBridge Program that provides transitioning service members with management training and hands-on experience in the local government environment to prepare them for smooth transitions into local government careers.

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FACTS	***ASSUMPTIONS***
• The tentacles of the city are MANY • Average citizen is unaware of what the city has to offer • Education system doesn't discuss or introduce local government • Similar program(s) would pay dividends moving forward	• City Manager has all the power • City pay and benefit packages are lacking • Executing change within the city would be easy

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EXPECTATIONS	***WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED***
• Low Expectations – wasn't sure what to expect • Very excited and pumped about the opportunity and possibilities	• Weekly counseling session with Elizabeth was very beneficial • Able to discuss and visit several different sites and sections within City's aperture • Ability to begin building relationships and networking framework

WAY AHEAD

- Identify and develop a plan/program(s) to help develop, introduce, mentor citizens about local/GG
- Use Public Affairs / MCO or liaison of sort to assist with building bridge(s) with local communities/population
- Determine how to better communicate with citizens (the what & how) to help build trust and creditability

TAKEAWAYS

- Excellent Program – would advise anyone
  - Elizabeth and Jackie's support and dialogues exceeded my expectation
- Not one bad interaction during 1-on-1's or visits with Director's or their team members
- Numerous fruitful opportunities within the city that aren't broadcasted correctly

Questions???