



## City Council Sponsorship Funding Request

**Councilor Requesting Sponsorship:** Mayor Benjamin Huseman **Date:** February 23, 2022

**Event Name:** Camo to College Golf Tournament

**Date:** May 26, 2022

**Location:** Buffalo Run Golf Course

**Amount:** \$2,000.00

**Current Year Misc Sponsorship Budget:** \$10,260 **Balance of Budget:** \$10,260

**Account#:** 010-21-201-734-001 Non-City Agency Grant Program Golf Tournaments

<b>Function or activity is of benefit to the City of Commerce City?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Is in the public interest or serves a public purpose?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Expenditure not already funded in Legislative Budget?</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Expenditure is for campaign purposes or for attendance at a partisan political event (a violation of the Fair Campaign Practices Act.)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Sponsorship Information:** See attached information

I certify that the foregoing expenses were incurred in the conduct of City Business.

*Benjamin A. Huseman*

City Council Approval

Meeting Date

City Attorney Signature - (if expense is over \$100 but less than \$350)



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Mayor Benjamin Huseman,

We thank you for your interest in becoming the Technology Sponsor for our Camo To College Golf Tournament at Buffalo Run Golf Course in Commerce City, Colorado on May 26<sup>th</sup>. The Technology sponsor would provide your city logo on all tournament information (scorecards, brochures, banner, etc.). It would also come with a free team entry as a thank you. The cost for this sponsorship is a \$2,000 donation that can be made [here](#).

Camo to College was formed in 2021 and will provide a transition program for those exiting the military and entering life after service. Our goal is to eliminate post service Veteran issues such as suicide and homelessness by providing support at the front end and providing the resources needed for our Veterans to be successful in life, something they deserve for their selfless sacrifice. Based on the numbers, over 70% of Veterans do not utilize their GI Bill benefits for continuing education. Furthermore, of the Veterans that have committed suicide, in a recent study, over 90% did not have a college degree. As Veterans who have gone through this transition, we understand the difficulty of it firsthand, especially for those that don't have a support system or a plan. Our mission is to ease the transition, help more Veterans get educated and have a plan upon leaving active service, which will translate into fewer suicides from our heroes.

Although, the nonprofit is incorporated in Texas, we are a national organization and the first 3 locations that we will offer our services are the greater Denver metro are, Dallas, and Kansas City, so this tournament is designed to raise money for our operations as well as connecting with these communities.

Staff member, former active duty Marine, and Commerce City resident Brett Ross has organized the Colorado tournament and is beyond excited to receive support from his hometown Commerce City. Brett knows what struggles a returning combat veteran has while intergrating into society after service. He had a very personal experiance with the effects of PTSD and how using his VA education benefits and obtaining his B.S. in Digital Cinematography helped with that transition. Camo to College's mission is very near and dear to his heart, much like the community he lives and thrives in. Brett has built a fantastic network of business owners and veterans in Comerce City to help with Camo



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to College's efforts. Most of which will be sponsoring, volunteering or at the very least participating in the Eric Hughes Memorial Golf Tournament. We would love to have C3's support and representation on May 26<sup>th</sup> at Buffalo Run.

This tournament is extra special since it will be right before Memorial Day weekend and a portion of the proceeds will go to the family of Eric Hughes, a brother we served with who lost a 6 year battle to brain cancer this past year. A portion of this money will go to a trust for his daughter's future education. Thank you for your consideration and let us know if you need any additional information.

Josh Arnold  
President/Co-Founder

Casey Hernandez  
Vice President/Co-Founder



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### **The Issues:**

We are fighting Veteran suicide and Veteran homelessness with a proactive approach to solving these problems. Veterans account for 5% of the US population, but make up almost 17% of the suicides. The leading cause of suicide in this group is isolation, and the average timeframe this occurs is within 3 years of discharge. Veterans with a college degree make up less than 10% of total Veteran suicides, but less than 30% utilize their well earned GI Bill. The transition is hard, and it is easy to fall into the same patterns as before they served instead of using the benefits to better their lives. Plus, their outlook on life has dramatically changed whether they realize it or not, making this transition all the more difficult. We need to increase the Veterans use of this benefit and help Veterans connect in cities they reside by making the transition easy and providing support where none previously existed

### **What We Do:**

We will utilize social media and the VA/DOD to encourage more Veterans to utilize their GI Bill benefits, especially in the areas we operate in. We will help with their application process, housing options, VA health paperwork, etc. to make this transition extremely easy. Creating communities of young Veterans will be paramount as their support system that they served with are scattered around the nation, increasing the isolation felt by Veterans after they end their service, which is the leading cause of Vet suicide.

### **How We Differ:**

There are many amazing nonprofit organizations fighting this issue, but the suicide number hasn't decreased nearly enough. Many of these organizations are reactive, providing help to those who are already down a dangerous path. These are extremely NEEDED, but in order to eliminate the problem, we need to stop it before it gets to that point. Our program will proactively offer help, and our approach will work the problem at the root of the issue to offer help before the issues become life threatening.

### **Vision:**

Our vision is to operate in as many college towns as possible so the maximum number of Veterans can benefit from our services. We also plan to deploy various virtual opportunities so our services can achieve maximum benefit. We need to meet our Veterans where they are in order to properly service their needs.



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### **Programs and Services:**

- Increase the usage of the GI Bill for college or trade school
  - Utilize social media and other outlets for successful communication
- Assistance with college/trade applications and partnering with schools Veteran Services to utilize their resources
- Partner with apartment complexes so Veterans can live in same facility
- Help with the VA health process
- Hold events for these Veterans creating camaraderie and establishing Veteran networks for support
- Partner with companies to create ease of employment following the completion of their education.

### **For More Information:**

You can visit our website at [www.camotocollege.org](http://www.camotocollege.org), email us at [info@camotocollege.org](mailto:info@camotocollege.org), or call us at 972-891-8043. We would love to discuss this and answer any further questions you may have. We believe this is THE missing step to the Veterans transition and the step that will dramatically decrease these problems.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Arnold".

Josh Arnold  
President/Co-Founder

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Casey Hernandez".

Casey Hernandez  
Vice President/Co-Founder





Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service  
Tax Exempt and Government Entities  
P.O. Box 2508  
Cincinnati, OH 45201

CAMO TO COLLEGE  
C/O JOSHUA ARNOLD  
9839 COLDWATER CIRCLE  
DALLAS, TX 75228

Date:  
04/29/2021  
Employer ID number:  
85-4132390  
Person to contact:  
Name: Mrs. Hein  
ID number: 31072  
Telephone: (877) 829-5500  
Accounting period ending:  
December 31  
Public charity status:  
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)  
Form 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N required:  
Yes  
Effective date of exemption:  
December 1, 2020  
Contribution deductibility:  
Yes  
Addendum applies:  
No  
DLN:  
26053411008971

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to [www.irs.gov/charities](http://www.irs.gov/charities). Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Martin  
Director, Exempt Organizations  
Rulings and Agreements