

Veterans Service Officer Appointment Policy

In accordance with Government Code Title 4 Executive Branch, Subtitle C State Military Forces and Veterans, Chapter 434, Subchapter B. Veterans County Service Offices, Section 434.033(b-1):

A Commissioners Court that maintains and operates an office shall appoint a veterans county service officer and the number of assistant veterans county service officers that it considers necessary.

To be appointed as an officer a person must:

- (1) be qualified by education and training for the duties of the office; and
- (2) be experienced in the law, regulations, and rulings of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs controlling cases that come before the commission.

In appointing an officer, the Commissioners Court **shall** give preference to a veteran who qualifies for a veteran's employment preference under Chapter [657](#). Chapter 657 details the following individuals qualify for a veteran's employment preference in the following order of priority:

- (1) a veteran with a disability;
- (2) a veteran;
- (3) a veteran's surviving spouse who has not remarried; and
- (4) an orphan of a veteran if the veteran was killed while on active duty.

An individual who qualifies for a veteran's employment preference is entitled to a preference in employment with or appointment over other applicants for the same position who do not have a greater qualification. An individual entitled to a veteran's employment preference is not disqualified from holding a position with the county because of age or an established service-connected disability if the age or disability does not make the individual incompetent to perform the duties of the position.

This policy is adopted on October 19, 2021.