



Charles Rainey (right) is HVAF's new Board Chairman, preceded by Trent Sandifur (left).

HVAF announces new Chairman of the Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Indianapolis, IN – HVAF of Indiana, Inc. announces that Charles Rainey has been elected as Chairman of the Board of Directors. He replaces former Board Chairman, Trent Sandifur.

“Chuck Rainey and I already enjoy a strong professional relationship so I look forward to partnering even more closely during his tenure as Chairman of the Board. His experience as a Navy Admiral, and mine as an Army General, have equipped us with similar perspectives on pursuing over-the-horizon goals and managing long-term change,” Brian Copes, HVAF President & CEO, said. “He expressed a clear vision for his two-year tenure and I am privileged to support his initiatives. I also extend my deepest thanks to our past Chairman, Trent Sandifur, who exhibited extraordinary patience in guiding me during my first two years as President and CEO.”

Mr. Rainey is a small business owner and as a Batteries Plus Bulbs franchisee he has developed, owns and operates three Batteries Plus Bulbs stores in Indiana. He retired in 2014 from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis after 20 years as a Vice President in marketing.

He also retired from the Navy Reserve as a Rear Admiral (lower half). While in the Navy Reserve he held several command positions and was recalled twice to active duty for service in Operation Iraqi Freedom and to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command as its Vice Commander and Director of Fleet Readiness.

He graduated in 1984 from the United States Naval Academy with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering and from Indiana University – Purdue University at Indianapolis in 1998 with an M.A. in Economics.

Mr. Rainey is committed to veteran's issues and has been on the Board of Directors at the Hoosier Veteran's Assistance Foundation (HVAF) since 2010 and on the Armed Forces Day Coordinating Council since 2016. He is a member of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Parish and lives with his wife, Christine, and a daughter and a son in Carmel, Indiana.

“My brother Doug was a Vietnam era Air Force veteran who spent his adult years struggling with many of the same issues that those we help at HVAF struggle with daily. He experienced the many stages of homelessness, here in Indianapolis, before passing away in a hospice in 2004 while I was deployed to Iraq,” Mr. Rainey said. “I serve at HVAF in Doug's memory and to keep the faith with many like Doug who need to know that, while they may be struggling, they are not forgotten and they remain a part of the team they joined when they raised their right hand and took the oath. Like good teammates we look out for each other on and off the field of play.

I want to recognize the tremendous leadership that Trent displayed as he led this board for the past 2 years. I also want to recognize and thank all of our board members, our many volunteers, our donors and the dedicated staff of HVAF. As I “fleet up” to Chairman it feels very much like a board and an agency that, having accomplished so much in the past 25 years, is poised for even greater service to the most vulnerable in our veteran population.”

About HVAF: Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation (HVAF) helps homeless veterans return to self-sufficiency and engages at-risk veterans and their families to prevent them from becoming homeless by providing supportive housing, case management, food, hygiene and clothing, as well as other essential services.