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U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

364 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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May 20, 2026

Commander Armando Hernandez
 State Commander
 Disabled American Veterans, Department of California
 13733 Rosecrans Ave.
 Sante Fe Springs, CA 90670

Dear Commander Hernandez:

Thank you to your team for appearing as a witness before the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Oversight for the hearing titled "Expanding the Mission: The Future of the National Center for Warrior Independence in West LA" that was held on May 13, 2026.

As a follow-up to the hearing, I request Mr. Richard Valdez, Past State Commander, respond to the attached questions for the record.

The Committee requests a written response no later than June 11, 2026, so it may be made part of the hearing record. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Nicholas West, Chief Clerk, on my staff via email at Nicholas.West@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

MIKE BOST
 House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

cc: The Honorable Mark Takano, Ranking Member, House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Enclosures: Questions for the Record submitted by Chairman Mike Bost

Chairman Bost to Disabled Veterans of America, Department of California

1. When was the last time your organization conducted an internal or external audit of its financials?
2. Were the donations and expenses reported accurately in the organizations' taxes annually?
3. Could you please confirm whether the Vans are fully owned by VA or GSA and provide any relating documents that support the transfer of titles?
4. What internal process does DAV utilize to track donations and expenses?
5. How much is the final monetary amount that was received by Breitburn and what was spent on transportation services?
6. How did DAV-CA first learn of ButterFli Technologies, and can you confirm there were no pre-existing relationships prior to having them provide services?
7. Were there are any negotiations conducted on the rates that ButterFli proposed to conduct transportation services?
 - a. If yes, what was the change in rates and who conducted those negotiations on behalf of DAV-CA?
 - b. If no, did DAV-CA accept rates at face-value? Who approved that agreement?
 - c. Did Mr. David Contreras have any part of the negotiations between DAV and Butterfli?
8. Can you confirm that there was no collaboration between any member of congress, ButterFli Technologies, and DAV-CA that may have led to this agreement?
9. What was the process for the market research that resulted in choosing ButterFli to provide transportation services?
 - a. Was it done by online search, or did they reach out to DAV first?
10. Was Butterfli Technologies aware of the donation agreement between DAV and Breitburn at any point prior to them beginning service?
 - a. Were they made aware as they were providing services?
11. Were there any other vendors that were considered besides Butterfli?

12. VA reported that DAV-CA received \$654,924.40 in Breitburn donations, and of that amount paid \$363,947 for Butterfli services and \$236,155.50 for the purchase of the vans. Can you confirm whether these amounts are correct or incorrect?
 - a. Should this align with what DAV provided to our staff?