

**Submitted to General Assembly's Executive Legislative Nominations Committee**

**Testimony of  
Mary Consoli, RN, BSN  
42 Tamanny Trail  
Danbury, CT**

**February 10, 2019**

Dear Representative Ed Vargas,

I am Mary Consoli a resident of Danbury from 1974 to present, I am writing in support of confirming the nomination of Thomas Saadi for Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Affairs. I am not able to testify in person regarding his nomination.

Tom has shown perseverance and commitment to what he feels is right by following his dream to serve in the armed forces. Once he was in the Army Reserves he again showed his commitment and aptitude and ability to lead, by climbing up the ranks and becoming an officer.

He has served the people of Danbury very well as a 20 year Democratic Representative of the Fourth Ward on the Danbury City Council. He earned the respect of his Democratic colleagues on the council to be chosen as the leader of the minority party for most of his 20 years. In this position Tom earned the respect of the Republican members as he worked in cooperation and showed bipartisan efforts to promote programs and projects to benefit the citizens of Danbury and championed many improvements for Veterans.

In his current position as appointed by Governor Malloy, Tom has shown vision and leadership by announcing what he sees as future improvements for Veterans and once appointed Commissioner by Governor Ned Lamont, he will put into place these enumerated improvements he has outlined.

My most admired quality of Tom is his ability to prioritize his commitments. He realized he had to make lifestyle changes and he put his family first and then State job responsibilities over his love of his volunteer work on the Danbury City Council.

It is my opinion a man who puts family first is someone I want to have in a leadership role. This shows character, and the reason I urge you to vote to confirm the nomination of Thomas Saadi as Commissioner of the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Thank you for considering my request.

Mary Consoli