

**SHARAD A. SAMY**  
32 Old Oak Road  
Darien, CT 06820

February 11, 2019

Senator Bob Duff  
Representative Edwin Vargas  
Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 1000  
300 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

*Re: The Reappointment of Thomas J. Saadi as Commissioner of Connecticut  
Department of Veterans Affairs*

Dear Senator Duff and Representative Vargas:

I am honored to submit to you this letter supporting the reappointment of Mr. Thomas J. Saadi as the Commissioner of Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs. My name is Sharad A. Samy, and I live at 32 Old Oak Road in the Town of Darien, Connecticut.

By way of background, I am the General Counsel of The Common Fund for Nonprofit Organizations; based in Wilton, Connecticut. I served as a reservist in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps for eleven years, deployed overseas for six months in 2005 with the Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa, and attained the rank of Major prior to being honorably discharged from military service.

I have known Tom for approximately thirteen years. And, throughout that time, I have been nothing short of impressed with Tom's energy, legal acumen and exemplary character, along with his sincere commitment to public service.

When Tom joined our unit as a young lieutenant in 2005, he exhibited a level of energy and passion that was notable to his senior officers. He quickly gained respect in the unit for being able to adapt to new situations and to facilitate efficiencies to support unit readiness. He became a central figure of our team, being known as a "go to" person to get things done. Indeed, as one example of his resourcefulness, when our soldiers were deploying for Iraq and Afghanistan, Tom realized they should know some basic Arabic. So Tom took it upon himself to obtain Army language booklets and teach our soldiers basic Arabic – which helped our deploying soldiers at a very stressful time.

I have also had the opportunity to observe first-hand the depth and breadth of Tom's legal acumen. Tom is experienced in civil, criminal, family, military and environmental law, having successfully served as a prosecutor, a military lawyer and a general counsel. His natural interest

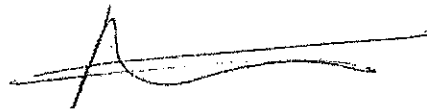
in the law has enhanced his professional career, but it has also served our State well – his work supports our citizenry and, particularly, our veterans.

Finally, Tom is a public servant of the finest character and integrity. He is honest, humble and respectful, with a genuine desire to “do the right thing.” At his core, he wants to serve and bring honor to the uniform and to those who have worn it, and I can think of no other person more qualified – or better suited – for the Commissioner of Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs.

I therefore heartily support Tom’s reappointment without any qualification. He will continue to do our country, and the great State of Connecticut, proud.

Should you require any further input about Tom from me, I am available to speak with you at your convenience.

Very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharad A. Samy'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'S' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sharad A. Samy