



**Military Order of the Purple Heart
COL Carroll M. Fyffe Memorial Chapter
Chapter 572
1838 Paseo San Luis, Suite #2
Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635**



Monday July 8, 2019

To the Patriots and Members of the Carrol M. Fyffe Memorial Chapter, Chapter 572:

As many of you know, during the Viola fundraising in front of Fry's Food stores there was an altercation between a man and initially other members of the Chapter besides me. The confrontation quickly escalated to an argument between this person and me. He then returned the next day to photograph and take videos of the Chapter's booth. Which resulted in another confrontation.

During both episodes, this person initially accused the Members present of posing as Wounded Veterans and not being honorable with the funds we were raising. Both Patriots Meacham and Blankenship were present at the time and initially were caught in this person's accusations. My conduct during the altercation was/is completely unprofessional and brought discredit upon the Chapter and the Order.

During one encounter, I told this person that I had been wounded four (4) times. As the shouting escalated; I was asked to the effect of: So, you have **four** Purple Hearts? I immediately shouted back **Yes**. This person contacted the Department of Arizona to verify my membership and the question of how many Purple Heart Medals I had been awarded. I was impaired on the day(s) of the altercation and again when contacted by the Department Adjutant. While further impaired, many of you also know that I have struggled for years with substance abuse (both alcohol and medication) issues; and as a continuation of the altercation I bristled and sent the Department Adjutant an altered DD 214 where I had changed 2ND Award to 4TH. Although impaired at the time, I fully accept responsibility for this dishonorable action. In doing so, I have completely brought embarrassment upon each of you personally, the Chapter, the Department of Arizona and the Order.

During my entire career, I was wounded on four occasions; the circumstances on the ground at the time resulted in two (2) awards of the Purple Heart Medal. In discussions with many of you, we have often talked of this fact. I have never, nor will I ever be seen wearing/having worn anything other than the Purple Medal with single OLC.

I regret my actions and the shadow they have cast upon the Chapter. This letter will also serve as my official letter of resignation as Chapter Commander effective immediately, as soon as can be arranged; coordination will be made with Chapter Leaders to verify handing over all Chapter property, etc. IAW the By Laws; the Membership has the option to revoke my membership if they so choose.

Respectfully,

James E. Weathers