

EXHIBIT A

AZ House candidate misrepresented military service | Locals sound alarm

POLITICS-Steve H. Slaton, Republican candidate for Arizona House in Legislative District 7 (LD7), has been the topic of a recent scandal involving his military service claims and his bitter battle with local Republicans. LD7 Republicans believe his military claims fall into a "Stolen Valor" category and are calling for Slaton to withdraw from the race.

Candidate Slaton:

Slaton moved to Show Low, Arizona, and opened the Trumped Store, selling former President Donald J. Trump attire and other conservative merchandise. He promotes the "America First" motto in his store and on the campaign trail.

Slaton's Valor Claims:

Candidates running for public office vowing to represent the people in their districts is a given promise. If a candidate displays their military service as a qualifying agent, they are considered reliable, dedicated, and trustworthy.

Slaton made some steep claims on his campaign page, [Steve Slaton for State Rep, LD 7](#), and in an April 5 radio interview with [KMOG](#) radio out of Payson. In the KMOG interview, Slaton gave a DD-214 to the host, Ken Murphy, claiming it was his real DD-214.

FACT: CORRECT IT WAS THE REAL DD-214, WHEN I COMPLETED MY SERVICE JUNE 28, 1976.

Slaton provided Murphy with the DD-214 because his opponent, LD7 candidate Walt Blackman, called Slaton out on a previous KMOG show for Stolen Valor.

On the April 5 KMOG interview, Slaton answered a caller's question. The question was, "There is a distinct difference between a Veteran and a Combat Veteran. Did you say you were a Combat Veteran?" Slaton responded, "Yes, I was a Combat Veteran in Vietnam for four months in support of the missions of the South Vietnamese and patrolled along the DMZ."

FACT: I NEVER SAID I PATROLLED THE VIETNAM DMZ! THAT WAS IN KOREA! IT WAS IN QRITRAN PROVIENDANCE.

Mountain Daily Star received the DD-214 from Murphy by email. Slaton also published a video on Facebook claiming that Blackman was falsely accusing him of Stolen Valor.

FACT: MURPHY TOLD ME HE GOT THE DD-214 FROM BLACKMAN, THE NIGHT BEFORE TO QUESTION ME ON THE RADIO.

Mountain Daily Star obtained Slaton's official military records (201-file) and the DD-214 through **Guardians of the Green Beret** and The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The documents obtained tell a different story.

FACT: THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN RETRIVE LEGALLY IS THE VETERAN, OR A FAMILY MEMBER OF A DECEASED VETERAN, WITH PROOF.

The DD-214 Slaton produced at KMOG has several additions that the official NARA records do not have. The additions include earning the Vietnam Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and Army Commendation Medal. Nixon Vietnamese Program 1974, Flightmen. Army Transportation School Fort Eustis Virginia, GOOD Promoted to Sergeant 1976.

FACT: THEY ARE ON MY ORIGINAL DD-214 WHEN I LEFT THE SERVICE.

On Slaton's website he describes himself as a co-pilot on a Cobra helicopter that served in Vietnam within the 128th Aviation Company, and a "retired" member of the military. He also sends out campaign emails describing himself as a Combat Veteran.

FACT: I SERVED AS A CREW CHIEF, AND EVRYTIME YOU GET IN THE FRONT SEAT YOU'RE CONSIDERED THE CO-PILOT, WHICH HAPPEN OFFTEN.

Mountain Daily Star, **Guardians of the Green Beret**, and local Veterans, investigated the claims made by Slaton.

FACT: WHO ARE THESE LOCAL VETERANS SOURCE? THE GUARDIANS OF THE GREEN BERETS THEY ONLY INVESTGATE THOSE WHO CLAIM THEY ARE A GREEN BERET. WHICH I NEVER WAS NOR DID I EVER CLAIMED.

Slaton's official NARA military records explain that he was stationed in Korea from January 1974 through December 1974 in the Military Operational Specialty (MOS) of 67Y20, which is an AH-1G Helicopter Repairman. During his three years of service, Slaton served in the AH-1G MOS as his primary position.

He was an AH-1 Crew Chief with the 128th Aviation Company in Korea from August 1974 until his term of service expired (ETS). Slaton went back to the United States at the end of the year. Slaton served in this position for four months.

FACT: THROUGHOUT MY RECORD IT STATES CLEARLY, I WAS A CREW CHIEF ON COBRA ATTACH HELICOPTERS AH-G

Everette Corn served in the Army as a pilot stationed in Vietnam. "I served with the 128th from July of 1970 to 1972, and I was their lead pilot in Vietnam, and they were serving in Korea in 1974." Corn continued, "Vietnam was over in 1973, and the 128th stood down in mid-1972 and was reactivated in Korea."

FACT: I DO NOT KNOW THIS GUY; HOWEVER, HE WASN'T THERE AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THE 128TH WAS DOING.

The 128th Aviation Company was not in Vietnam in 1974, nor was Slaton holding the position of a Cobra co-pilot in Vietnam or at anytime during his three years of service according to the official military records.

FACT: I NEVER SAID THE 128TH WAS IN VIETNAM IN 1974; THERE WERE ELEMENTS OF US AND OTHER UNITS SENT UNDER THE NIXONS VIETNAMIZATION PROGRAM FROM 1969 TO 1975 SEE EXHIBIT F.

The altered DD-214 Slaton provided states he was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal. This medal was awarded from July 4, 1965, through March 28, 1973. Slaton enlisted in the Army on June 29, 1973 according to the official NARA DD-214. He was not on active duty when this medal was awarded, so it's impossible for him to have earned it. This medal does not appear in the awards section of Slaton's official 201 service record.

FACT: THERE'S OTHER AWARDS THAT DO NOT SHOW IN MY RECORDS, VERY STRANGE I WAS ON ACTIVE DUTY!

Slaton never stepped foot in Vietnam.

FACT: THIS IS A GOOD ONE! I WAS IN VEITNAM ON FEBURARY 1974 TO MAY 1974 IN MARBLE MOUNTAIN DANANG.

Also included in this section of the altered DD-214 is the Army Commendation Medal, the medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, distinguish themselves

by heroism, outstanding achievement, or meritorious service. This medal does not appear in the awards section of Slaton's official 201 service record.

Slaton never received the Army Commendation Medal.

FACT: I RECEIVED THE ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL AT FT. HOOD TEXAS, WHEN A TROOP NEEDED AN EXTRA COBRA AND CREW CHIEF WHICH I VOLUNTEERED FOR, FOR DESERT EXERCISES DOWN IN EL PASO.

Additional discrepancies were also noted on Slaton's altered DD-214, The Army Good Conduct Medal, which is awarded on a selective basis to each soldier who distinguishes himself or herself from among his or her fellow soldiers by their exemplary conduct with character and efficiency ratings excellent or higher throughout the qualifying period. This medal does not appear in the awards section of Slaton's 201 official service record.

Slaton never received the Army Good Conduct Medal.

FACT: MANY 201 FILES ARE PROVEN TO BE INCOMPLETE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES WHICH WE HAVE A COPY OF AS WELL.

The Remarks Section of the altered DD-214, includes the "Nixon Vietnamese Program 1974." This made up program is no where to be found. Reporters interviewed dozens of Vietnam Veterans and contacted the Dept. of the Army, "No one has heard of the Nixon Vietnamese Program 1974," all the responses concurred. Vietnamization was a policy of the Richard Nixon administration to end U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. However, in 1974, most military control was given over to the South Vietnamese. Its also important to note that in this area it is clear that the document had different font, such as the number 4 and the number 7.

FACT: SEE EXHIBIT F, **Vietnamization. Vietnamization was a policy of the Richard Nixon administration to end U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War through a program to "expand, equip, and train South Vietnamese forces and assign to them an ever-increasing combat role, at the same time steadily reducing the number of U.S. combat troops". [1]**

- **Date: 28 January 1969 – 30 April 1975 .**

Added to the MOS title of AH-1G Helicopter Repairman on the altered DD-214 is "Flight man." This specialty does not define any training as a Flight man/co-pilot in the job description.

However, Slaton was in the Army Standby Reserve 1976 to 1979.

FACT: I ADDRESSED THIS EARLIER.

Slaton stated he retired from the Army on the bottom of his campaign website. No where in the history of the Army has anyone served for three years and retired unless they were medically retired. Slaton's website has since been changed from "retired" to "Veteran of the Army."

FACT: IT'S NOT ON MY WEBSITE! ALSO, A LIE.

Slaton's campaign website has been changed, however, during this story the website showed "retired member of the Army."

FACT: NO IT DID NOT!

On April 10, an investigator with the Guardians of the Green Beret contacted Slaton to ask him for a comment about altering his DD-214. Slaton gave no response other than to listen to the investigator relay the information. The investigator informed Slaton that he had proof due to a letter from The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) stating that the DD-214 he submitted to KMOG radio was indeed fraudulent. The investigator also stated to Slaton that he had the correct military records and, "He knows Slaton did not serve in Vietnam."

FACT: Posing as a "Guardian Green Beret" = Cope Reynolds, who is a supposedly "licensed Private investigator", and can access people S.S. Number. He's a good friend of the Blackmans and works with Molly Ottman, who also is a supposedly "Private Investigator" (HER LICENCE IS SUSPENDED) and they both work for same agency Harter Investigations located in Phoenix. Their offices were raided by Navajo County Sheriff's over some sort of shady investigation. All computers were seized. As to the Guardian Green Berets- Per their website "Who they are We are former and current Green Berets who find and investigate those who falsely claim to be a Green Beret. We will never out someone unless we are 100% certain via FOIA and Bragg". Which I never claimed to be!

NOTES: In my conversation with the "Guardian Green Beret" AKA Cope Reynolds (in my opinion) and is not a veteran, he did all the

talking, claiming I typed up my DD-214, and bragged he can get anyone's S.S. Number within an Hour. He stated he has Contacts within the V.A. to get information, then he started Talking about Karen, and her former Husband, Jim Foust, with the same B.S. about His DD-214. Also Claimed Jim never knew or met Bo Gritz. Which is false.

If Slaton lies about his military service, fakes his military service accolades, and submits an altered military document, how can the voters in LD7 trust that he will represent them honorably? It's perplexing why Slaton altered his DD-214 when he did serve in the Army, and his service dates in Korea would allow him to become a member of The Veterans of Foreign Wars.

FACT: I NEVER SUBMITTED ALTERED MILITARY DOCUMENTS! THE ALTERED RECORDS WERE SUBMITTED BY BLACKMAN.

Sen. Rogers and Slaton:

While campaigning for his legislative position on the "America First" platform, Slaton has garnered the support of Arizona **LD 7 Senator Wendy Rogers**. Slaton has claimed that he and Sen. Rogers are running mates.

On the front of Slaton's store, which faces the Deuce of Clubs in Show Low, he displays signs and banners indicating to the community that the duo is running together.

Sen. Rogers, who received her commission in 1976, is a United States Air Force Pilot and retiree in her own right. She had the duty to do her due diligence in vetting Slaton. She is seeking re-election to represent the people of Northern Arizona in the November 2024 election. As a Veteran with her qualifications and service, she should have done her homework on Slaton before she paraded him around as her wingman.

FACT: I HOLD UP SENATOR ROGERS IN THE HIGHEST REGARD FOR HER SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AND I,AM PROUD TO BE HER DESIGNATED WINGMAN!!!!

*A special thanks to our dear friends at **Guardians of the Green Beret**; your dedication to our Country and the Honor you give Veterans of the Special Forces is breathtaking.*