



To the loyal members of our GBF family,

As you know, the Green Beret Foundation was created to pursue a singular mission: to provide the highest possible standard of care to all Green Berets past, present, and future.

One critical facet of this mission is the implicit understanding of the complexity of the challenges that every Green Beret faces throughout their lives, in active duty and beyond.

As a Foundation, we exist to provide assistance to those Green Berets who are courageous enough to understand when it is time to seek our support.

Equally important is the recognition that no Green Beret is ever exempt from facing these challenges; they are what make us human. Our struggles through training, deployments, and transition are often the very things that most bond us together.

This is why, at this challenging time, we ask for your support and understanding as our Executive Director, Brent Cooper, has chosen to step down from his position at the helm of the Green Beret Foundation in order to attend to personal and private family matters.

The Foundation is tremendously grateful to Brent for his years of service and dedication to this organization. He led the organization to achieve unprecedented growth, attain Department of Veterans Affairs accreditation as a Veterans Service Organization, establish the Pineland Initiative, and assemble a truly winning team.

In Brent's place, the Board of Directors has appointed Ms. Frances Arias to the role of Interim Executive Director. Her competent leadership is loved and respected by all those who come into contact with the GBF. Prior to this appointment, Frances served as the Director of Operations for GBF; she has been with the Foundation for seven years, first serving as Operations Manager. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from McMurry University and Master's Degrees from American Military University in Asymmetrical Warfare and Strategic Intelligence. An advisor for the Special Forces Neurosurgery Collaborative and mentor for Girl Security, Frances has also earned the distinction of becoming a member of the Forbes Nonprofit Council and is a George W. Bush Institute VLP Scholar.

Brent will always be a friend of the GBF; he has our full support as he navigates this challenging time in his life. He asked to share the following message with the GBF community:

"I am incredibly grateful to the board of directors and my GBF teammates for their enduring support during this difficult season of my life. It has been my greatest honor to serve the Special Forces Regiment again, helping my brothers and their families in their greatest times of need. Thank you all for your continued support as the foundation is poised to seamlessly continue its mission. To my brothers: be brave enough to ask for help, and never, ever, give up. DOL."

The Board of Directors has already initiated the process to conduct a national search for a permanent executive director. In the meantime, we want you to know that we will remain the organization you have come to know and trust. We have a strong leadership team and an incredible staff; we will not miss a beat as we move forward to the next ridgeline.

De Oppresso Liber,

Ken Tovo
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army, Retired
Chairman of the Board