

Executive Appointments Legislative Review  
Compiled by Oregon Legislative Committee Services

**OFFICE:** Veterans' Affairs, Oregon Department of - Director

**APPOINTEE:** Cameron Smith of Salem; replacing Willis

**APPOINTMENT/CONFIRMATION AUTHORITY:** ORS 406.020

**TERM:** Filled by appointment of the Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate

**ECONOMIC INTEREST FILING (ORS 244.050):** Required.

**STATUTORY QUALIFICATIONS:** ORS 406.020

Affirmative action policy: See ORS 182.100. Diversity criteria: See ORS 236.115.

- Appointment to be made by the Governor
- Appointments shall not be made without written approval of the Advisory Committee
- Director shall be a war veteran, chosen on the basis of executive and administrative ability

**DUTIES AND AUTHORITY:** ORS Chapter 406

- Organize and coordinate administration of present and future federal and state laws pertaining to war veterans and their dependents
- Cooperate with officers and agencies in all matters affecting veterans' welfare
- Accept, expend, or donate grants, donations and gifts for veterans' welfare
- Act as agent or attorney in fact for any war veteran and their dependents or beneficiaries of any war veteran relating to rights under any federal or state law
- Act as conservator of the estate of a person who qualifies for benefits from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

*Revised February 28, 2013 Erin Seiler*

## **CAMERON SMITH**

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- OBJECTIVE** To serve as director of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs where I can effectively use my leadership, management, and public affairs skills to represent, honor, and support Oregon's veterans and their families
- QUALIFICATIONS** Strategic leader with respect for the past and vision for the future  
Focused manager with ability to plan, budget, direct, motivate, and supervise  
Persuasive advocate with passion for shaping public policy  
Dedicated partner who builds strong relationships across the community
- EXPERIENCE**
- Senior Policy Advisor / Office of Governor John Kitzhaber  
Salem, Oregon / 2011-present**
- Developed and implemented broad public policy initiatives in the areas of military, emergency management, and veterans' affairs
- Led and facilitated the Governor's budget process to prioritize efficient and effective policies in the Safety Outcome Area that included 88 programs administered across 33 separate state agencies
- Represented the Governor and coordinated outreach to diverse stakeholders including the public, state agencies, the Legislature, Congressional offices, tribal partners, local governments, media, businesses, and non-profits
- Senior Policy Advisor / Office of Governor Ted Kulongoski  
Salem, Oregon / 2007-2011**
- Developed and coordinated public policy in areas that included economic development, energy, public safety, military, and veterans' affairs
- Planned and implemented Governor's initiatives and communications including policy papers, legislative agenda, executive orders, community events, speeches, and talking points
- Played integral role on team that supported Governor Kulongoski's robust and personal effort to honor and better serve Oregon's veterans and their families
- Captain / United States Marine Corps  
San Diego, California / 2003-2009**
- Led, trained, and managed 84 Marines on three deployments to Iraq
- Coordinated logistics staff to develop and clearly communicate policies that ensured consistent and reliable support for an organization of more than 1,300 people
- Developed extensive project management skills in supervising support from internal agencies and multi-national contractors in an austere environment
- Awarded Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal
- EDUCATION**
- Carleton College / Bachelor of Arts, History / *magna cum laude*  
Northfield, Minnesota / 2000
- United States Marine Corps / Officer Training / Graduated top 10% of class  
Quantico, Virginia / 2003