

**CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

**Brooklyn College**  
Department of History

**CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH PROJECT**

**Project Title:** Brooklyn College Veterans History Project

**Principal Investigator:** Philip Napoli  
Assistant Professor  
Department of History  
Brooklyn College  
City University of New York  
2900 Bedford Ave  
Brooklyn, NY 11210

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**Introduction/Purpose:** You are invited to participate in an oral history research study. The study is conducted under the direction of Philip F. Napoli, PhD.

According to the Oral History Association, “oral history is a method of gathering and preserving historical information through recorded interviews with participants in past events and ways of life.”

You have been approached for an interview because you are a military veteran.

The purpose of this research study is to:

1. record, preserve and present to the public the memories of military veterans  
and
2. understand the long-term impact military service has had on veteran’s lives.

The audio/video recordings and transcripts of these interviews will be made available to the public and Dr. Napoli intends to produce written and published material from them.

The results of this study will supplement written records about the history of military veterans and help us better understand the place of the military in American life.

**Procedures:** Approximately 30 individuals are expected to participate in this study.

1. The Interview

Each person will participate in a series of between two and five open-ended interviews. You will be asked questions about your life before, during and after and after your military service. The

CUNY UI - Institutional Review Board	
Approval Date:	5/9/2014
Expiration Date:	3/9/2015
Coordinator Initials:	<i>PN</i>

goal of the interview is to have you tell us your life story, with a focus on your time in the military and why that was important.

The time commitment for each interview session is expected to be about two hours, but you can decide that you wish to say more – or less -- than that.

Each session will take place at a location of your choice, and interviews can be done over the telephone, and even over the computer using a service like Skype.

The interview will be audio-taped, videotaped or both and transcribed by a commercial transcription service.

## 2. The Deed of Gift and the Use of the Interview

Immediately after the interview, you will be presented with a deed of gift.

This agreement places the interview into the public domain.

A Stanford University Library web site has said that, “If a book, song, movie, or artwork is in the public domain, then it is not protected by intellectual property laws (copyright, trademark, or patent laws)—which means it’s free ... to use without permission.”

([http://fairuse.stanford.edu/Copyright\\_and\\_Fair\\_Use\\_Overview/chapter8/](http://fairuse.stanford.edu/Copyright_and_Fair_Use_Overview/chapter8/))

Because the interview will be in the public domain, the Brooklyn College Veterans History Project can:

- use it in scholarly or popular publications, or
- place it on the internet in whole or in part, or
- quote it in scholarly and popular publications

without prior notice to you.

Because the interview will be in the public domain, members of the general public will also have access to this interview, and can use it, again, without prior notification to you.

I give permission to the researcher to use my identity, photograph, voice recording in published materials, including on the internet:

Yes  No

## 3. The Transcript

If you request it, a transcript and copy of the recording will be returned to you for your review. If you like, you may make changes to the transcript before any public use is made of your interview. If you make changes to the transcript, only the transcript will be made public, not the original recording.

I request to see a transcript of this interview before any public use is made of it.

Yes  No

#### 4. Terminating Your Involvement

In the event that you choose to withdraw during the interview, or decide not to sign the deed of gift at the conclusion of the interview, any recording made of the interview will be either given to you or destroyed.

#### **Possible Discomforts and Risks:**

The risks associated with participation in this interview are believed to be minimal although it is possible that talking about past events can be upsetting.

During the interview, you may request to stop the recording at any time to discuss or clarify how you wish to respond to a question or topic before proceeding.

If you are bothered, troubled or upset as a result of this study you should call the Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255, and Press 1. I also have a list of counseling resources that I can give you. If this is a psychiatric emergency, you should call 911.

**Benefits:** There are no direct benefits to you from this research. However, potential benefits include the preservation of your memories in an historical archive, and the wider public understanding of your story.

Additionally, participating in the study may increase general knowledge of the importance of military service in American life.

**Voluntary Participation:** Your participation in this study is voluntary, and you may decide not to participate without prejudice, penalty, or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. If you decide to leave the study, please contact the principal investigator Philip Napoli, PhD to inform him of your decision.

**Confidentiality:** The data obtained from you will be collected via video and audio recording.

Neither Prof. Napoli nor his representatives, nor any entity at the City University of New York offer any guarantees of confidentiality or anonymity concerning the content of this interview.

**If this idea makes you uncomfortable, you should not sign this informed consent form, and you should not participate in the interview.**

**Contact Questions/Persons:** If you have any questions about the research now or in the future, you should contact the Principal Investigator Philip F. Napoli, 718.951.5000 x2809, [pnapoli@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:pnapoli@brooklyn.cuny.edu). If you have any questions concerning your rights as a participant in this study, you may contact

Brooklyn College  
Human Research Protection Program Office  
James Hall Room 1306  
(718) 951-5519  
[irb@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:irb@brooklyn.cuny.edu)

