

**From:** [Elizabeth Jones](#)  
**To:** [Janet Wood](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)  
**Date:** Monday, December 21, 2020 7:56:58 AM

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From: sunset@sunset.texas.gov On Behalf Of Texas Sunset Commission  
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2020 2:28:35 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)  
To: Sunset Advisory Commission  
Subject: Public Input Form for Agencies Under Review (Public/After Publication)

Agency: TEXAS HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE COMMISSION

First Name: Franklin

Last Name: Kasman

Title: Dr.

Organization you are affiliated with: One of the founding members of the THGC

Email:

City: Midland

State: Texas

Your Comments About the Staff Report, Including Recommendations Supported or Opposed:

To the Sunset committee:

Having served as an Inaugural Commissioner and having served longer than usual on the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission, has led me to personalize things with the Commission more than usual. I met Chairman Pete Berkowitz at the first meeting and he and I became close friends. With this friendship also came a sense of similar expectations from the Commission. I watched him and learned from him and I do not recall a single thing he asked of me that I did not do for him and with his satisfaction. We were both concerned as the first terms ended and new appointments to the Commission occurred and with Pete's untimely passing there was an aura of loss and an unfilled void in the Commission that I felt deeply.

I have been fortunate in my life to have done many things..some better than others, but my experience on the Commission was the pinnacle of my adult life. I finished professional school, served in the US Air Force, started a dental practice, raised a great family and had many honors bestowed upon me, but nothing in my life has impressed me more than the honor of participating as ten Texas World War II soldiers who helped liberate the Nazi concentration camps in Germany at the end of the War were presented medals from our Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission by seventeen Holocaust survivors at a ceremony we hosted in the Texas Senate Chambers in November of 2018. Before a crowded chamber full of families of Veterans and Survivors, the sight of Survivors embracing their Liberators and joining in a celebration of Liberty was almost too hard to imagine. Letters from two former American Presidents were read and the ceremony ended with the "Missing Man formation" executed by a flyover by the Commemorative Air Force pilots.

We all felt twenty feet tall as we honored these great TEXAS LIBERATORS and their families...and I never had a better day.

The feeling of accomplishment on that day and what we have done for the State of Texas as a Commission is why we are all striving to keep the THGC as a viable part of Texas's government. This worthwhile Commission still has a long way to go...just recall last Summer and the "neo Nazis" marching in America's streets and synagogues and church burnings. The phrase "NEVER AGAIN" still has much to be done to insure that concept. The THGC should be maintained.

Dr. Franklin Kasman D.D.S. an Inaugural Commissioner  
Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission

Any Alternative or New Recommendations on This Agency: I support the Texas Holocaust & Genocide  
Commission and do not want it to be abolished

My Comment Will Be Made Public: I agree