Name/Title_____ **PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK INK**
Signature_____

United States Service Academy 2013 Nomination
Congressman Vern Buchanan FL-16
Personal Evaluation

The person who has asked you for a recommendation is applying to my office for a nomination to a United States Service Academy. The purpose of the Academies is to provide a college education leading to a career as a military officer. The answers you give will be used in the selection process. Please place the completed evaluation form in a sealed envelope, sign your name across the flap, and return to the applicant. Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

Name of Applicant: (Last, First, Middle) _____

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
_____
_____

What do you consider the applicant's talents or strengths with regard to leadership potential?
_____
_____
_____
_____

What do you consider the applicant's weaknesses to be?
_____
_____
_____
_____

In your opinion, would the applicant be able to effectively manage taking orders from superior officers?_____
_____
_____
_____

In your opinion, does the applicant show good character, moral values, and provide a good role model for younger students? _____
_____
_____
_____

Do you know of any circumstances or conditions that would affect the applicant's performance at a military academy? If yes, please explain. _____
_____

Name/Title_____ **PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK INK**
Signature_____

United States Service Academy 2013 Nomination
Congressman Vern Buchanan FL-16
Teacher / Coach Recommendation

The person who has asked you for a recommendation is applying to my office for a nomination to a United States Service Academy. The purpose of the Academies is to provide a college education leading to a career as a military officer. The answers you give will be used in the selection process. Please place the completed evaluation form in a sealed envelope, sign your name across the flap, and return to the applicant. Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

Name of Applicant: (Last, First, Middle) _____

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
_____
_____

What do you consider the applicant's talents or strengths with regard to leadership potential?
_____
_____
_____
_____

What do you consider the applicant's weaknesses to be?
_____
_____
_____
_____

In your opinion, would the applicant be able to effectively manage taking orders from superior officers?_____
_____
_____
_____

In your opinion, does the applicant show good character, moral values, and provide a good role model for younger students? _____
_____
_____
_____

Name/Title_____ **PLEASE PRINT IN BLACK INK**
Signature_____

United States Service Academy 2013 Nomination
Congressman Vern Buchanan FL-16
Counselor / Principal Evaluation

The person who has asked you for a recommendation is applying to my office for a nomination to a United States Service Academy. The purpose of the Academies is to provide a college education leading to a career as a military officer. The answers you give will be used in the selection process. Please place the completed evaluation form in a sealed envelope, sign your name across the flap, and return to the applicant. Thank you for taking the time to complete this form.

Name of Applicant: (Last, First, Middle) _____

How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?
_____
_____

What do you consider the applicant's talents or strengths with regard to leadership potential?
_____
_____
_____
_____

What do you consider the applicant's weaknesses to be?
_____
_____
_____
_____

In your opinion, would the applicant be able to effectively manage taking orders from superior officers?_____
_____
_____
_____

In your opinion, does the applicant show good character, moral values, and provide a good role model for younger students? _____
_____
_____
_____

V. Essays (Please type one page including below items)

Why do you want to attend a United States Service Academy?

Why do you believe you are qualified to be nominated?

Write a brief character sketch of yourself. Include basic attributes and those qualities which you believe are your strengths.

VI. Evaluation Forms

Have a teacher, coach, counselor, or other adult who is not related to you complete the enclosed evaluation forms and sent back to our Sarasota office before the deadline of September 27, 2013. **Do not send extra letters other than the three included with this application.**

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING
I have read the information contained in this packet explaining the nomination process of Congressman Buchanan. I understand the Congressman's requirements, including the requirement of a personal interview to be held on October 19, 2013, if eligible. I am also aware of the application deadline of September 27, 2013. **I certify that I am a legal resident of the Sixteenth Congressional District of Florida**. There is no known reason I should not be medically qualified to receive an appointment to a service academy, if nominated. In signing this form, you are stating that you understand the nomination requirements for the Office of U.S. Congressman Vern Buchanan and that you will abide by these requirements.

_____ _____
Signature Date

Paste copy of driver's license here

IV. Extracurricular Activities

List any significant offices you have held since entering ninth grade:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

In what non-athletic, extracurricular activities have you participated in since entering ninth grade?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

List any non-athletic awards, achievements, prizes, or accomplishments not listed above:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

List any non-varsity organized sports in which you have participated in since entering ninth grade:

_____
_____
_____
_____

List any sports in which you participated as a member of a varsity team and any letters received:

_____
_____
_____
_____

List any athletic awards or special recognition you have received:

_____
_____
_____
_____

List your primary interests and hobbies:

_____
_____
_____

Please indicate all other Service Academy nomination sources to which you are applying:

_____ Senator Marco Rubio _____ Senator Bill Nelson _____ JROTC
_____ President _____ Vice President
_____Another U.S. House of Representative's office: _____

If you are now in the military service, please provide the following information:

Branch of Service: _____

Rank: _____

Length of Service: _____

III. High School/College Information

High School: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Graduation Year: _____

What is your class rank? _____ Total Class Size: _____
(if no class rank, have counselor or principal estimate your place)

College or Prep School Attended (if applicable)_____

G.P.A. (unweighted):_____
Honors Classes (please circle) Y / N AP Classes Y/N IB Program: Y/N
SAT Scores: Verbal/writing_____ Math_____ Date taken: _____
ACT Scores: Verbal/writing_____ Math_____ Date taken: _____
Qualifying scores must be in by application deadline of September 27, 2013
I plan to take/retake the SAT/ACT on_____

List any academic honor societies to which you belong?
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Are your parents legal residents of the Sixteenth Congressional District of Florida? *(please circle)* Y / N

Father's Name: _____

Father's Address: _____
(street) (apartment)

_____
(city, state, zip) (county)

Father's Employer: _____ Work Number: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Mother's Address: _____
(street) (apartment)

_____
(city, state, zip) (county)

Mother's Employer: _____ Work Number: _____

Do you have any brothers and/or sisters? Y / N

If yes, please list their names and ages:

Name	Age
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

II. Academy Preference

Please rank the Academies to which you will accept a nomination in order of preference (1-4):
(Do not mark an academy unless you are truly interested in attending that academy)

_____ Air Force Academy _____ Merchant Marine Academy

_____ Military Academy _____ Naval Academy

Have you ever applied for a Service Academy nomination to any source, Congressional or otherwise, for a class entering prior to this year? *(please circle)* Y / N

If yes, what was the result?

_____
_____
_____

Attach Headshot Here

2013 Application for Nomination to the United States Service Academies
Congressman Vern Buchanan
Florida's Sixteenth District

111 South Orange Avenue, Suite 202W, Floor 2R, Sarasota, FL 34236 (941)951-6643

I. Personal Information

Name: (Last, First, Middle) _____

Preferred Name (if different than above): _____

Date of Birth: (mm/dd/yyyy) _____Social Security #_____

Permanent Address: _____
(street) (apartment)

_____
(city, state, zip) (county)

Temporary Address (if applicable): _____
(street) (apartment)

_____
(city, state, zip) (county)

Phone Number: (home) _____ (cell) _____
Email Address: _____

Are you a United States Citizen? *(please circle)* Y / N

United States Service Academy Nomination 2013 Applicant Checklist
Congressman Vern Buchanan
FL-16

1. _____ **Applicant Form** -complete application form, school or passport picture pasted in upper right corner of first page of application and copy of driver's license pasted on signature page.

2. _____ **Three Evaluation Forms** – send in completed and sealed with signature over sealed envelope flap. (please do not send more than the three letters included)

3. _____ **Academic**

    a. _____ **Sealed official transcript** - from all high schools, junior colleges, or colleges you have attended prior to September 27, 2013.
    b. _____ **Class rank** - must be on your transcript. (if no class rank, have counselors estimate what your class rank would be, if possible)
    c. _____ **SAT/ACT Scores** – if transcript does not include a copy of official SAT/ACT scores, please forward your scores from the testing service using the following code: SAT-5389 and ACT-7333.

4. _____ **Deadline** – complete United States Service Academy application packet must be received by our Sarasota office no later than **September 27, 2013**. No Exceptions. You can start sending in paperwork earlier than that date and we will open a file.

Mail/hand deliver completed application to Sarasota Office only (no later than September 27, 2013):

Congressman Vern Buchanan
Attention: Joni Hansen, Service Academy Coordinator
111 South Orange Avenue, Suite 202W, Floor 2R
Sarasota, FL 34236

Candidates who have questions about their medical exam results should direct them to:

DODMERB (719) 472-3562
8034 Edgerton Drive, Suite 132
USAF Academy, CO 80840-2200

Medical scheduling and evaluation are time-consuming processes, especially if consultation, re-testing, or corrective action is required. The process may take from six weeks to four months.

Motivation: Motivation is an intangible quality and difficult to evaluate; however, since it is most frequently the factor that determines an appointee's success or failure at a service academy, I make every effort to gauge a candidate's motivation. An attempt to measure motivation may be made through observation of the candidate's interest level in attending an academy and serving as an officer in the armed forces. Motivation may also be measured through an evaluation of correspondence, personal contacts, and care with which application materials are prepared.

Service Academy Websites

Military Academy	http://www.usma.edu
Naval Academy	http://www.usna.edu
Air Force Academy	http://www.usafa.edu
Merchant Marine Academy	http://www.usmma.edu

We encourage you to contact or remain in contact with the service academy of your choice. This should be done immediately. Competing for a nomination through a congressional office is a process completely separate from working with a service academy's admissions office to fulfill its entry requirements. Both requirements must be met in order to be eligible for an offer of appointment. If you have any questions, please contact Joni Hansen, service academy coordinator in the Sarasota office at (941) 951-6643.

Interview

Mandatory personal interviews will be conducted on Saturday, October 19, 2013. If qualified and paperwork is completed properly, you will be notified of the interview time and specific location. Eligible applicants are required to have an interview with our interview panel, which is comprised of retired military officers, and local business and community leaders. The panel carefully reviews your documentation and conducts a personal interview with each applicant. **Congressman Buchanan's nominations will be based solely on recommendations of his interview panel. Any attempts from student or parents to contact or influence the interview panel could negatively affect the student.**

neither required nor of assistance in gaining an appointment. If another authority nominates you, please notify me so that I may allow other candidates the opportunity for nomination.

Evaluation Criteria

The academies consider evidence of character, scholarship, leadership, physical aptitude, medical fitness, personal goals, and motivation in performing each nominee's "whole person" evaluation. These are also the criteria I use to determine nominations.

Character: Absolutely critical in the course of evaluating a candidate is a positive determination of the candidate's character. Absence of good moral character is cause for disqualification. Candidates are considered to have good moral character unless evidence exists to suggest otherwise.

Scholarship: Each element of a candidate's academic record is carefully evaluated by a service academy's admissions board. The elements evaluated include a complete high school record (and college record, when applicable), class standing and either the SAT-1 or ACT scores. All strengths and weaknesses in a candidate's academic background are taken into account.

Leadership: Participation and achievement in organized athletics, student body and class government, clubs, and other extracurricular activities demonstrate evident of leadership potential. Candidates who have found it necessary to work to provide family support are considered to have demonstrated desirable leadership potential.

Physical Aptitude: Measuring strength, endurance, agility, and coordination, the academies' fitness tests are designed to determine each candidate's readiness to undertake the rigorous athletic and physical education program at one of the academies. Each academy has its own test requirements. Results of the examination are evaluated, assigned a numerical score, and included in the "whole person" evaluation by West Point. The Air Force, Naval, and Merchant Marine academies evaluate the results on a pass-or-fail basis.

Medical Fitness: A candidate who meets minimum scholastic standards will be scheduled to take a service academy qualifying medical examination at a military or civilian contract facility near the candidate's home. Although medical qualification standards vary among the academies, only one exam is required. Different tests may be necessary, however, depending upon the academy. Scheduling and evaluation of the exam are arranged by the Department of Defense Medical Examination Review Board (DODMERB). https://dodmerb.tricare.osd.mil/default.asp

Congressman Vern Buchanan
Florida's 16th Congressional District
Selection Procedures for 2013 Academy Nominations

An appointment to the United States Military Academy, United States Naval Academy, United States Air Force Academy, or the United States Merchant Marine Academy is a distinct and rare honor. Acceptance of an academy appointment requires at least a nine-year service obligation, including four years at an academy and five years of active duty service.

Eligibility

To be eligible for appointment, you must be an American citizen, at least seventeen years old and not yet twenty three years old on July 1 of the year you enter an academy (Twenty five years old for the United States Merchant Marine Academy). Further, you must not be married or pregnant, and you must not have any legal obligation to support children or other dependents. To apply for a nomination through Congressman Vern Buchanan's office, you must also be a legal resident of Florida Congressional District Sixteen. **You cannot apply for nomination through another U.S. House of Representative's office.**

Nomination

The nomination process is very competitive. I urge you to apply for a nomination from me as well as Senators Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson from our state who can nominate qualified applicants to the four service academies. If you are interested in attending the United States Military Academy, United States Naval Academy, and the United States Air Force Academy, you may also qualify for nomination through other sources, including:

- President Barack Obama, who nominates children of career military personnel, deceased or disabled veterans, military or civilian personnel in missing status, and Medal of Honor recipients;
- Vice President Joe Biden, who nominates five individuals from across the United States per year; and
- The Secretary of each military department, Army, Navy, and Air Force, who nominates members of regular military, reserve components, and participants in the ROTC.

Further information regarding application procedures for these nominations is available through each academy's website, listed below. Applying for more than one nomination increases your chances of securing a nomination. More than one nomination, however, is

Dear Applicant:

One of the most rewarding duties as a Member of Congress is nominating the best and brightest young men and women from Florida's Sixteenth Congressional District to our nation's service academies. If you are a highly motivated, well-rounded, successful student, I invite you to consider the unique opportunity to develop physically, ethically, and intellectually while building a foundation for an exciting, challenging, and rewarding career as a military officer in the service of our nation. Students from our congressional district traditionally are very successful at the academies, and I am pleased to do my part to ensure that the community continues to provide some of the next generation's outstanding military leaders.

A Congressional nomination is required for students wishing to enter the United States Military Academy (West Point, NY), the United States Naval Academy (Annapolis, MD), the United States Air Force Academy (Colorado Springs, CO), and the United States Merchant Marine Academy (Kings Point, NY). Successful applicants will have a broad academic background, the ability to pass a physical aptitude test, and strong leadership potential. An applicant must also be a United States citizen, a high school graduate between the ages of seventeen and twenty three, unmarried, have no dependents, and have high moral character. Acceptance of a service academy appointment requires at least a nine-year service obligation, including four years at an academy and five years of active duty service.

For your reference, I have enclosed a United States Military Academy Nomination packet for 2013. Please read all information provided and follow all instructions carefully. All requirements listed as well as the application must be in my Sarasota office no later than **Friday, September 27, 2013** to be considered for the class entering the service academies in July, 2014. Please contact Joni Hansen in my Sarasota office at 941-951-6643 for further information or email her at Joan.Hansen@mail.house.gov .

Thank you for your interest in the service academies.

Sincerely,

Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress