

Jesse Vasquez - Candidacy Statement and Professional History

Candidacy Statement

Dear Fellow Retirees,

After dedicating 36 years of service to this city in uniform, I have seen firsthand that our strength has always been rooted in our unity and shared values. Today, I am seeking your support as I run for the office of President of the Austin Police Retired Officers Association.

If you are content with the current status quo—marked by politics, trivial distractions, and the routine raffling of firearms—then I may not be your candidate. However, if you believe that together we can build something more meaningful, I would be honored to earn your vote.

Here is the truth: when we allow ourselves to be defined by weapons or petty antics, we not only harm our public image, but also risk making life more difficult for the men and women still serving within the Austin Police Department. I believe our time and energy can be better invested in uplifting one another, welcoming those entering retirement, and guiding officers who are preparing to retire as they negotiate with the City—just as we once did to secure the benefits we now enjoy.

Most importantly, I want our association to remain open—open to your ideas, your input, and the collective wisdom we have gained through our careers and lives. By embracing this spirit, we can continue to serve as a force for good in Austin and leave behind a legacy worthy of the badge we once proudly wore.

Respectfully,

Jesse R. Vasquez
Badge #459

Education and Work History

I graduated from the University of Houston in May 1975 with a Bachelor's degree in Biology. The following year, in 1976, I was commissioned and began my career in uniform as a patrol officer. From 1976 to 1984, my assignments included Community Services and the Crime Division.

In 1984, I was promoted to Detective, where I gained experience across multiple units, including Theft, Forgery, Criminal Intelligence, Crimes Against Persons, Street Crimes, Homicide, and Sex Crimes. In 1996, I advanced to the rank of Senior Sergeant, where I supervised patrol operations and later served in the Investigations Bureau's Organized Crime Division until my retirement in 2012.