



BLINDED VETERANS ASSOCIATION

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December 15, 2009

Joseph Lovett
President
Lovett Productions, Inc.
17 Van Dam Street, Ground Floor
New York, NY 10013

Dear Mr Lovett,

On behalf of the Blinded Veterans Association, the only congressionally chartered veteran service organization representing blinded veterans and families for 64 years, we want to congratulate you on your film "Going Blind." We at the BVA thought it was great! The coverage of the different kinds of degenerative common eye diseases and the images of what a person going blind is experiencing is rarely found in media presentations. I've never seen a film provide the sense of loss of vision as this film does. Medical providers learn a lot of academic pathology science, but this presentation will provide unique understanding from the patients' perspective as to how the changes appears to them and how the challenges can be met.

"Going Blind" deftly immerses an audience in the compelling stories of individuals facing glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, retinitis pigmentosa, albinism, and those now returning with combat war trauma blindness. The film is inspiring as it reveals the challenges people face every day and how they overcome them with the successful adaptations that can be made. The medical research community and academic university programs tend to examine the world in chemistry, biology, and pharmacology. BVA hopes that after viewing "Going Blind," medical professionals will open their perspective and take steps to better understand patients' fears and offer the types of discussions demonstrated here in the film.

BVA appreciates that the film includes interviews with top vision experts conducting breakthrough medical research in such areas as stem cells and gene therapy – research that has and will continue to revolutionize the diagnosis and treatment of these diseases . As important is your presentation of the advances in vision technology devices that enable blind and low vision individuals to function independently at home and in the work environment. Hopefully this knowledge will open up viewers to offer more job opportunities for those who are visually impaired.

I wish every medical school in the country would have this film to show to the third year medical students, as they begin to examine patients so they are more exposed to the impact of these common blinding diseases. Blinded Veterans Association appreciates the professionalism and commitment to this project and will recommend "Going Blind" to a wide audience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Zampieri Ph.D." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Thomas Zampieri
BVA Director Government Relations