



March 26, 2025

Mark L. Turner, Commander  
Department of Rhode Island, VFW  
1 Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908

Re: Proposed Amended Bylaws

Dear Comrade Turner:

Receipt is acknowledged of the proposed revised Bylaws for the Department of Rhode Island, VFW, submitted for review of the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with Section 502 of the Manual of Procedure.

These documents have been designated amended Bylaws to reflect their replacement of previously reviewed Bylaws.

A review of the proposed amended Bylaws discloses that they are in substantial compliance with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual, and laws and usages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; however, have been modified for compliance. To preclude any misunderstanding of the additions and/or deletions, an informal document has been attached.

A copy of the reviewed amended Bylaws has been retained for our files and two sets herewith returned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Q. S. Carroll".

Quentin S. Carroll, Director  
Administrative Operations

QSC: sb

Enc: Revised Bylaws (2)

cc: Department Adjutant (1)

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# NATIONAL BYLAWS/MANUAL OF PROCEDURE CONFLICT

## DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND, VFW

### **Article XIV Section 3 and Section 4**

Remove Section 3 and Section 4 in its entirety.

*Reason: To conform with Section 709 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures which states that any activity, clubroom, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, be at all times under the direct control of such Post, County Council, District or Department.*

### **Article XV Section 2 (a)**

Remove “The Department Inspector, Quartermaster, or both if necessary, should conduct such inspection and make a written report to the Department Commander.”

*Reason: Limits the Department Commander in appointing any member in good standing within the Department to conduct an Inspection under Section 710 of the National Bylaws.*



11 December 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Judge Advocate General for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Department of Rhode Island, I hereby certify that I have thoroughly reviewed the proposed Department Bylaws. The bylaws have been examined for compliance with all relevant legal standards and alignment with the policies and procedures set forth by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

After careful consideration and review, it is my professional opinion that the proposed Department Bylaws are in proper form and are ready to be forwarded to the National Headquarters for final approval.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further information regarding the review process.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony J. Abatecola". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "A" and "J".

ANTHONY J ABATECOLA  
Judge Advocate General  
Department of Rhode Island  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND

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**VETERANS**  
**OF**  
**FOREIGN WARS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND**



**BY-LAWS**  
**AND**  
**PROCEDURES**

**REVISED 2024**

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## **ARTICLE I**

### **NAME and JURISDICTION**

#### **Section 1**      **Name:**

By virtue of Charter granted, this subdivision of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall be known as the Department of Rhode Island, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, hereinafter referred to as the “Department”.

#### **Section 2**      **Jurisdictions:**

The jurisdiction of this Department shall conform to the territorial limits of the State of Rhode Island.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **OBJECT**

#### **Section 1**      **Object:**

The object of this Department shall be as set forth in the National Congressional Charter By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **AUTHORITY**

#### **Section 1**      **Authority:**

The Supreme power of the Department shall be as set forth in the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and shall be governed by the National Congressional Charter By-Laws adopted by said National Convention, mandates of the National Council of Administration and lawful orders of the Commander-in-Chief.

#### **Section 2**

Subject to the provisions of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws, the government of this Department shall be vested in the Department Convention, Department Council of Administration, and lawful orders of the Department Commander.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

#### **Section 1      Composition:**

The Department Convention shall be as provided in Article V of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Delegate strength shall be one (1) delegate for each thirty (30) members of the Post in good standing and fraction thereof as of March 31<sup>st</sup> of the election year.

#### **Section 2      Time and Place:**

The Department meeting of the Department Convention shall be held annually between May 1 and July 31, at such time and place as shall be determined previously by the Department Council of Administration. The annual Department Convention site will be selected by the Department Convention Committee each year and submitted for approval by the Council of Administration three (3) years in advance of the next annual Department Convention.

#### **Section 3      Registration Fee:**

- a) A delegate registration fee shall be paid by each Post for every delegate to which each Post is entitled based upon the Department Quartermaster's records as of March 31<sup>st</sup> of the election year with such additions as may be necessary by new Posts only. Each Post shall promptly forward to Department Headquarters the names of delegates elected to the Department Convention on a form supplied by the Department Adjutant and signed by the Post Commander and Post Adjutant.
- b) The delegate registration fee shall be forwarded by each Post regardless of the number of delegates present at the Annual Department Convention and must be in the hands of the Department Quartermaster not later than fifteen (15) days before the convening of the Department Convention each year. Posts failing to forward full delegate registration fee shall be considered delinquent and in arrears.
- c) Fees will be determined at the April Department Council of Administration meeting, bases on the cost of the Annual Department Convention.

#### **Section 4      Funds:**

- a) The Department Quartermaster shall set up a Department Convention Fund and all Department delegate registration fees received by him or her shall be placed therein and used and expended only for expenses incurred and expenditures made in holding of the annual Department Convention each year. All surplus funds shall revert to the Department General Fund after the final Convention report.



### **Section 5**      **Voting:**

Department Officers and Past State Commanders, who are entitled to credentials and have registered same, in person, shall be allowed a voice or vote in the Convention. See Nat'l Bylaws Art V, Sec 521

### **Section 6**      **Quorum:**

The minimum of delegate's required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a Department Convention shall not be less than one (1) delegate each from twelve (12) of the twenty-three (23) Posts in the Department.

### **Section 7**      **Minutes:**

Copy of the minutes of the Department Convention shall be sent to each Post in the Department and to all members of the Council of Administration no later than sixty (60) days after the adjournment of said Convention.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **OFFICERS**

#### **Section 1**      **Officers:**

- a) The officers of the Department shall be those as provided for in Article V of the National By-Laws and the Department By-Laws. See Nat'l Bylaws Art V, Sec 516 (c)
- b) The Department Commander shall appoint the following Department Officers: Judge Advocate General (JAG), Surgeon, Chief of Staff (COS), and Officer of the Day (OOD).

#### **Section 2**      **Term:**

The officers of this Department, their eligibility to, nomination, election and/or appointment, installation, and term of office shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws. See Nat'l Bylaws Art V, Sec 515, 516 and 517.

#### **Section 3**      **Vacancies:**

Vacancies in office may be declared and shall be fulfilled in accordance with Section 520 of the National By-Laws.

#### **Section 4**      **Duties:**

The duties of all officers in this Department shall be as prescribed by National and Department By-Laws, as lawful orders or as the Department or the Department Commander may direct, and as those By-Laws may provide.

The Department Quartermaster shall be the treasurer of all Department Committees that receive and expend funds of the Department of Rhode Island. At no time shall the Department Quartermaster be the Chairpersons of any Committee that receives or expends funds of the Department.

## **Section 5      Officers Reports:**

All Department Officers, elected and/or appointed, and Committee Chairpersons shall make written reports both factual and financial to the Council of Administration and the annual Department Convention unless otherwise ordered by the Department Commander or the Council of Administration.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

- a) The Department Council of Administration shall be composed of those officers enumerated in Section 522 of the National By-Laws: Department Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Adjutant, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Inspector, Chief of Staff, Chaplain, District Commanders, Immediate Past Department Commander. See Nat'l Bylaws Art V, Sec 522 (a).
- b) The Department Council of Administration shall fix all the salaries of employees of the Department.
- c) A quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Council.
- d) Each member of the Council shall be entitled to one (1) vote. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.
- e) The Council of Administration shall meet in July, October, January, and April. A meeting of the Council of Administration will be held at the Department Convention if requested by the Department Commander or Council of Administration Members.
- f) The Service Officer shall provide a status report update during the Department Council of Administration meeting.
- g) Department Policies shall be reviewed and approved by the Council of Administration, then implemented by the State Commander.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **DEPARTMENT DISTRICTS**

- a) The Department of Rhode Island is subdivided into three (3) well defined Districts utilizing municipality boundaries as a basis to align with the state of Rhode Island.
- b) Section 403 of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws prescribes that the geographical boundaries of all Districts be identified.

DISTRICT ONE	Post No.
Pawtucket	306
Warwick	183
Warwick	272
Pawtucket	602
Pascoag	1023
Central Falls	1271
Pawtucket	2339
Forestdale	6342
North Providence	10011

DISTRICT TWO	Post No.
North Kingstown	152
Bristol	237
Newport	406
Middletown	4487
Portsmouth	5390
Tiverton	5392
Jamestown	9447

DISTRICT THREE	Post No.
West Warwick	449
Wakefield	916 (merge 8018)
Cranston	2396
Cranston	2812
Cranston	4651
Westerly	8955
Coventry	9404



### **DISTRICT 3**

Comprising

<b><u>Post Number</u></b>	<b><u>Post Name</u></b>	<b><u>Municipality</u></b>
Post 449	Sgt. David Langevin	West Warwick, RI
Post 916	William G. Fournier	Wakefield, RI
Post 2396	Tabor Franchi	Cranston, RI
Post 2812	Kelley Gazzerro	Cranston, RI
Post 4651	Nelson Mack Narragansett	Cranston, RI
Post 8955	Amancio Falcone Gaccione	Westerly, RI
Post 9404	Coventry Memorial	Coventry, RI

- c) In addition to the District Commanders, each Department District shall elect and/or appoint District Officers in accordance with the provisions of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws.
- d) Delegates and alternates to the District Convention shall be elected on the basis of one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members of the Post and fraction thereof in good standing on the date of election.
- e) Two or more Posts in the Department of Rhode Island may consolidate as provided for in Section 209 of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **DUES**

#### **Section 1**

- a) The Department annual dues on each member in good standing in each Post within its jurisdiction shall not be less than the approved amount by the Council of Administration.

#### **Section 2**

- a) The Department **PER CAPITA TAX RATE** is the minimum dues assessment per annum of each member in good standing in each and every Post with the Department.
- b) Should the Department of Rhode Island of the Veterans of Foreign Wars need to increase the current **PER CAPITA TAX RATE**, the increase shall be approved by a delegate vote at the Department Convention.
- c) To avoid any hardship, all Posts shall be notified of any proposed increase of the **PER CAPITA TAX RATE**, not less than ninety (90) days prior to the Department Convention. Should the Department fail to comply with the ninety (90) day notice of such a proposal, such an increase shall not be effective before October 1<sup>st</sup> of that year.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **ARREARAGE**

#### **Section 1**

Any Post in arrears for returns, reports, or other financial obligations shall be subject to the provisions of Section 213 of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **DELEGATES**

#### **DISTRICT AND DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

#### **Section 1**

The election of Delegates to the District and Department Convention shall be in accordance with Section 222 of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws and delegate strength as determined in Article IV of the By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **COMMITTEES**

#### **Section 1**      **Department Convention Committee:**

The Department Commander shall appoint, as soon after the election as possible, a Department Convention Committee of at least six (6) members plus the Department Adjutant whose duty it shall be to arrange for the holding of the next Department Convention.

#### **Section 2**      **Budget and Finance Committee:**

The Department Commander shall appoint a Budget and Finance Committee of not less than eight (8) members to include the Department Senior Vice Commander, Department Jr. Vice Commander, the Department Quartermaster, Service Office, a four (4) year member, a three (3) year member, a two (2) year member, and a one (1) year member. The Committee shall elect the Chairman of the Committee from its members. The initial Committee appointed by the Department Commander shall include the above. Each succeeding Commander shall appoint four (4) year member. Duties of the committee shall be:

- a) To assist the incoming Department Quartermaster with preparing a tentative budget in accordance with the National By-Laws.
- b) The committee shall meet quarterly to examine the quarterly report, all the Quartermaster's books and records, and report its findings to the Commander and Council of Administration.

- c) The Committee shall receive all requests from various Committees and make recommendations to the Commander and Quartermaster prior to the submission of the Quartermaster's Budget at the first Council meeting.
- d) The Committee shall at all times be prepared to advise and recommend to the Commander and Council on all monetary policies and practices.
- e) The tentative budget proposed by the Quartermaster shall be submitted to the Council of Administration members not less than five (5) days prior to the first Council of Administration meeting. No sum in the approved budget shall be exceeded without prior approval of the Council of Administration.
- f) Department Commander, Quartermaster, Adjutant, Judge Advocate and the Chairperson of the Budget and Finance Committee shall conduct an inspection of all cash, bank deposits, all other funds, trusts and otherwise, immediately after their election and installation and prior to the July Council of Administration meeting. A report of this inspection shall be made to the Council of Administration.

### **Section 3      By-Laws Committee:**

The Department Commander shall appoint a permanent Department By-Laws Committee consisting of at least the past four (4) Department Commanders and Department Judge Advocate to study, prepare, and recommend such amendments as may be required to maintain compliance with the National By-Laws and/or for the government of the Department. The Department Commander shall designate the Chairperson.

### **Section 4      Credentials Committee:**

Prior to the convening of each Department Convention, the Department Commander shall appoint a Credentials Committee consisting of three (3) members, one from each district. District Commanders shall designate their representation NLT 30 days prior to the State Convention. The Committee shall have full charge of the registration of the delegates to the Department Convention and shall examine and report to the Convention upon the credentials of members present and entitled to participate in the Convention. The Department Commander shall designate the Chairperson.

### **Section 5      Membership Committee:**

The Membership Committee shall consist of the Department Commander; Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Adjutant, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, District Commanders, and such other members as may be required to develop and implement a membership action plan to focus on recruitment and retention. The Department Commander shall designate the Chairperson. The District Commanders shall be directly responsible for the membership in their District.

## **Section 6      Legislative Committee:**

The Department Commander shall appoint a Department Legislative Committee composed of the Department Legislative Officer and one (1) member from each District to prepare a legislative program for presentation to the General Assembly after the Department Council of Administration approves it. The Department Commander shall designate the Chairperson.

## **Section 7      Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen Chairperson:**

The Department Commander shall appoint, as soon after his or her election as possible and feasible, a Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen Chairperson.

## **Section 8      Awards and Citations Committee:**

The Committee shall consist of not less than five (5) members. Each District must provide one member to the Committee NLT 60 days after the Department Convention. The Department Commander will designate a Chairperson of the Committee. The Committee shall award:

- a) AWARD OF COMMENDATION with accompanying Medal and Certificate for the outstanding meritorious and distinguished service in furthering the aims and ideals of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the Department of Rhode Island.
- b) AMERICANISM AWARD in recognition of outstanding qualities of citizenship in the community and Department of Rhode Island of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- c) R.O.T.C. AWARD AND J. R.O.T.C. AWARD to an outstanding Cadet participating in their respective unit within the jurisdiction of the Department.
- d) LEGISLATIVE AWARD to an elected official on the local or national level for constant support for legislation that champions veterans' entitlements.
- e) PUBLIC SERVANT AWARDS for outstanding services performed by an individual in his or her unit. Each of the recipients will represent Department of Rhode Island in the National Competition:
  - 1) EMT AWARD
  - 2) FIREFIGHTERS AWARD
  - 3) LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARD
- f) SCOUT/SEA CADET OF THE YEAR AWARD for outstanding participation in high school, scouting, sea cadet corps and community service. The recipient will represent Department of Rhode Island in the National Competition.  
TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD for outstanding dedication in their profession. Each of the recipients will represent Department of Rhode Island in the National Competition:
  - 1) ELEMENTARY                      K-5
  - 2) MIDDLE SCHOOL                6-8
  - 3) HIGH SCHOOL                    9-12
- g) COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD in recognition of outstanding qualities of service to community and Department of Rhode Island of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- h) PATRIOTISM AWARD in recognition of outstanding qualities of service to the ideals of America's history and Department of Rhode Island of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



## **Section 9**      **Veterans & Families in Crisis Committee**

The mission of the Rhode Island VFW Veterans & Families in Crisis Committee is to empower and support homeless veterans in Rhode Island, ensuring their successful transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency and a fulfilling life.

The Committee provides comprehensive, compassionate, and sustainable solutions that address the unique challenges faced by homeless veterans. The Committee strives to create a community where every veteran has access to safe and affordable housing, healthcare, employment opportunities, and essential support services.

The Committee provides food items, essential clothing items IE t-shirts, socks, winter coats, and if possible, footwear. The Committee can also provide essential hygiene items via “go bags”.

Through collaboration with other non-profit organizations, businesses, and the local community, The Committee aims to raise awareness about the plight of homeless at-risk Veterans and military families in cases that the family members are affected, and advocate for policies that prioritize their needs.

## **Section 10**      **Ways and Means:**

The Committee shall be responsible for the development and implementation of a strategic plan to fundraise and finance Department operations. The Committee shall consist of the Department Commander, Department Senior Vice Commander, Department Junior Vice Commander, Department Judge Advocate, Department Adjutant, Department Quartermaster, and one (1) member from each District. The Committee shall be responsible for fund raising in the Department. The Department Commander may appoint any additional members to the Committee and shall designate the Chairperson.

## **Section 11**

The Department Commander shall be an ex-officio member of all Department Committees. In the event of a tie, the Department Commander will cast the deciding vote.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **OFFICE AND EMPLOYEE ADMINISTRATION**

The Headquarters Office of the Department shall be in the City of Providence. The Service Officer program will operate an office co-located with the VA Regional Office, and other locations as the Department may prescribe and shall employ such full time and part-time personnel as the Council of Administration shall determine to be essential.

- a) The Quartermaster shall provide adequate supplies and furnishings to ensure normal operation of the Department offices.
- b) Such employees may be removed from office or employment upon charges of incompetence, negligence of duty, insubordination, or conduct unbecoming an employee of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Charges must be proven to the satisfaction of a committee composed of the Department Commander, Department Senior Vice Commander, Department Junior Vice Commander, and Department Judge Advocate or through discontinuance of the position or necessary reduction of personnel.
- c) Such employees may appeal to the Council of Administration for a hearing and, after due deliberation, the Council of Administration on a majority vote shall render the final decision to remove or reinstate employee.

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### **CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Section 1**

- a) All resolutions from a Post shall be signed by the Post Commander and Post Adjutant.
- b) All resolutions from Posts must be in the hands of the Department Adjutant not less than fifteen (15) working days prior to the convening of the Department Convention.
- c) The Department Adjutant shall assign a number to resolutions and forward copies to the Chairperson of the respective Convention Committee not later than ten (10) working days prior to the convening of the Department Convention,
- d) The Chairperson of the Convention Committees must return to the Posts any resolutions not properly drawn in accordance with these By-Laws prior to the convening of the Department Convention.
- e) Resolutions from the floor of the Convention require a two-thirds majority vote before such consideration may be given.
- f) Posts must submit resolutions affecting the Department By-Laws to the Department Adjutant forty (40) working days prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **MANAGEMENT OF POST CLUBS/CANTEENS**

#### **Section 1**      **Applicability**

- a) Nothing in this Article shall override any requirement set forth in Sections 708 and 709 of the National By-Laws or Article XIV Section 7 of these Department By-Laws. Any Post with a clubroom, canteen or external business relationship shall ensure they are in strict compliance and understanding of these applicable sections.
- b) The first and foremost consideration of all posts shall be to the objects of the VFW mission. Clubs and canteens shall be of secondary interest and concern and compatible with the VFW stated purposes.
- c) Proper Post inspections must include a complete check of all club/canteen activities as well as normal Post operations.

#### **Section 2**      **Control of Units**

- a) Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Department of Rhode Island shall not be responsible for the negligent or wrongful acts or omissions nor the contractual obligations or debts of any Post or District nor for the negligent or wrongful acts or omissions or contractual obligations or debts of any activity clubroom, holding company, or unit-sponsored, conducted, or operated by, for or in behalf of any Post or District. All funds raised from any activity, clubroom, holding company, or unit-sponsored shall be at all times under the direct control of such Post or District.
- b) No Post and no activity, clubroom or holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or on behalf of any Post, may own any property jointly or in common with any individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation or other business or charitable entity, including veterans organizations nor may they participate in any arrangement whereby the funds of such Post, or activity, clubroom, holding company or unit sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or in its behalf are expended on property held by another entity for the joint use of such Post, and other individuals, firms, partnerships, associations, corporations, or other business or charitable entities, including veterans organizations.
- c) All money, property, or assets of any kind or nature, as well as all books and records, owned, held, or used by any activity, clubroom, holding company, or unit-sponsored, conducted or operated by, for or on behalf of a Post or District shall be the property of such Post or District and must be placed in the care and custody of the respective Quartermaster. Such money, property, assets, books and records shall be subject to the same rules and under the same procedure as any other Post or District money, property, assets, books, and records, in accordance with the National Congressional Charter By-Laws.
- d) Two or more Posts in the Department of Rhode Island may consolidate as provided for in Section 209 of the National Congressional Charter By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.
- e) Units shall ensure compliance with any applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

## **ARTICLE XV** **MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Section 1**      **Colors and Property**

The Department Colors and all Department Property shall be insured for a sum to be fixed by the Council of Administration.

### **Section 2**      **Inspections**

- a) The Department Commander may require the inspection of any Post or District within the jurisdiction of the Department whenever he/she may believe that the best interest of the organization requires it.
- b) All books, papers, accounts, records and proceedings pertaining to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the Department of Rhode Island shall be subject to inspection at all times by the Department Inspector or any other officer designated by the Commander to make such inspections.

### **Section 3**      **Suspensions**

- a) All money, property and assets of every kind and nature, as well as all records in connection therewith used, held and owned by such activities is the property of the sponsoring unit and must be placed in the care and custody of the Quartermaster. All records in connection with such activities shall be subject to the same rules and under the same procedures as any other Post, District and/or Department property and records.

### **Section 4**      **Department Supplies**

The Department Adjutant and Department Quartermaster shall be allowed to order supplies, which a member of the VFW may desire. The Department Quartermaster may require the item to be paid for before placing the order. They also shall be allowed to keep in stock those items, which are called for often.

### **Section 5**      **Expenditures**

- a) There shall be no carryover in receipts or expenditures of any committee in the Department. Any balance shall be transferred to the General Fund.
- b) There will be no surrender of any depository certificate unless approved by the Council of Administration and a letter sent to the bank informing them of the date of the meeting and the authority signed by the Department Adjutant and Department Commander.
- c) The Department Commander, Department Adjutant, and Department Quartermaster shall approve any requests for expenditures.

## **Section 6      Department Commander Expenses**

The Department shall include the following items in the annual budget to support the Department Commander's requirements and Department obligations:

- a) The National Convention.
- b) The Commander in Chief's Homecoming.
- c) Eastern States Conference.
- d) Department Commander Travel, Pins, and Coins.
- e) Past Department Commander Ring/Pin.

## **Section 7      United Veterans Council**

The delegates to the United Veterans Council shall be the Department Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Adjutant, Legislative Officer, and one delegate and alternate appointed annually by the Department Commander.

# **ARTICLE XVI**

## **AMENDMENTS**

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a Department meeting of the Department Convention provided that no amendment will be considered unless a copy of same shall have been forwarded to all Posts and Department Officers at least thirty (30) working days prior to the convening of the Convention. No amendment shall be effective until reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief.

Wherever these By-Laws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future National By-Laws, the latter shall prevail and be binding upon this Department as though written herein.



REVIEWED **MAR 26 2025**  
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

*Brian Walker*  
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL

BY *Q. Hill*, DIRECTOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

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