

August 6, 2019

Troy Williams, Commander  
Department of Missouri, VFW  
3401 Knipp Dr.  
Jefferson City, MO 65109-5702

AUG 12 2019

Re: Proposed Amended Bylaws

Dear Comrade Williams:

Receipt is acknowledged of the proposed revised Bylaws for the Department of Missouri 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,



Johnathan R. Duncan, Director  
Administrative Operations

JRD: cl  
Enc: Revised Bylaws (2)  
cc: Department Adjutant (1)

**NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS**

406 W. 54th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111  
Office 816.756.3390  
Fax 816.968.1157

**WASHINGTON OFFICE**

200 Maryland Ave., N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
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info@vfw.org  
www.vfw.org

# NATIONAL BYLAWS/MANUAL OF PROCEDURE CONFLICT

## DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI VFW

### **Article IV Section 1**

Replace “503” with “504”

*Reason: Incorrect Bylaw section reference. Section 504 of the National Bylaws provides for the composition of the governing body for a Department Convention. To remain consistent with the change we made to these Bylaws in 2017.*

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*Reason: To conform to Section 522 of the Manual of Procedure.*

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Renumber to read “3, 4, 5 & 6”

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Veterans of Foreign Wars**

P.O. Box 26  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Phone: 573-636-8761  
Fax: 573-636-2664

**Troy Williams**  
COMMANDER

**Eric Sullivan**  
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

**James Nall**  
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

**Royce Kelb**  
SURGEON

**Don Hentges**  
ADJUTANT

**Tom McLerran**  
QUARTERMASTER

June 14, 2019

Johnathan Duncan, Director  
Administrative Operation  
VFW National Headquarters  
406 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111

Dear Johnathan:

Enclosed please find revised By-Laws for Department of Missouri located in Jefferson City, Missouri.

It is the recommendation of the Department Commander that they be approved.

With Best Regards

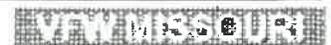
Don L. Hentges, Adjutant  
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Enclosure

Veterans of Foreign Wars

JUL 15 2019

Administrative Operations-GM



# **BYLAWS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI**

**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**

Revised June 2019

## **ARTICLE I NAMES AND JURISDICTION**

Section 1. The subdivision of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall be known as the Department of Missouri, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Section 2. The jurisdiction of this Department shall conform to territorial limits of the State of Missouri.

Section 3. The Headquarters of the Department of Missouri, Veterans of Foreign Wars shall be situated in Jefferson City, Missouri.

## **ARTICLE II OBJECTS**

Section 1. The objects of this Department are fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies.

## **ARTICLE III AUTHORITY**

Section 1. The supreme power of this Department shall be vested in the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; and the Department shall at all times be governed by the Congressional Charter and Bylaws adopted by said National Convention, mandates of the National Council of Administration, and orders of the Commander in Chief.

Section 2. The Department shall be governed by a Department Convention, subordinate to the National Convention and lawful orders of the Department Council of Administration and/or the Department Commander.

## **ARTICLE IV DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

Section 1. The Department Convention shall be composed by those specified in Article V, Section 504 of the National Bylaws.

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Section 3. The stated meeting of the Department Convention shall be held annually as described in Section 503 of the National Bylaws. Not earlier than ninety (90) days prior to the convening of the National Convention and shall be concluded no less than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the National Convention, at such time and place determined previously by a Department Convention.

Section 4. No proposed site for a Department Convention shall be considered by any Department Convention unless the facilities of the proposed site have first been thoroughly investigated with said investigation to be in compliance with instructions issued by the Department Commander. Deadline for the submission of bids for a Department Convention shall be March 15th prior to the Convention at which said bid is to be considered. In the event no bid is submitted by March 15th, the deadline on which the first bid for the designated Convention is received will govern. In the case more than one bid is received on the same day, all bids received that day shall be considered.

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FIRST DISTRICT: The counties of Caldwell, Carroll, Chariton, Daviess, Grundy, Harrison, Linn, Livingston, Mercer, Putman, Ray and Sullivan.

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Section 4. All Department officials handling monies of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States shall be bonded with a good and solvent indemnity company, as surety, in a sum at least equal to the average amount of funds and/or the value of property for which, so far as can be anticipated, he/she may be accountable during the year. In case of delinquencies due Department Headquarters, action shall be taken at once by the proper officials to bring about a speedy and complete settlement. The bond (or bonds) of all Department Officers shall be approved by the Department Judge Advocate and the Department Council of Administration.

Section 5. The Financial Report, complete in every detail, shall be prepared by the Department Quartermaster as of the last day of the month following each annual Department Convention and shall be certified by an outside firm of Certified Public Accountants.

Section 6. All profits from the sale of Poppies shall be credited to the Department Veterans Service Fund.

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PUBLICATION AND OFFICIAL NOTICES**

Section 1. The VFW Department of Missouri website is declared to be the official publication of the Department of Missouri, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Section 2. General Orders of the Department Commander and official notice of the Department posted on the VFW Department of Missouri website or emailed to official emails shall be full and lawful notice to all officers and members of the Department for all purposes.

**ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended or altered only by the Department Convention and then only by a vote in favor thereof by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast at a stated meeting thereof; provided however, that such amendment have been forwarded, through channels, have been approved and have been proposed by a Post, District or Department or have been recommended by a National Officer and written notice thereof, together with a copy of the proposed amendment, has been given each Post, District Commanders, and Department Officers by the Department Adjutant at least fifteen (15) days before the assembling of the Department Convention. No amendment shall be effective until same has been reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief.

Section 2. All Bylaws heretofore enacted and not embodied in these Bylaws are hereby repealed.

Section 3. Wherever these Bylaws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future National Bylaws the later shall prevail and be binding upon this Department as though written herein.

**ARTICLE XII  
POST CONSOLIDATIONS**

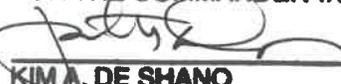
Section 1. Two or more Posts in the Department of Missouri, Veterans of Foreign Wars may consolidate as provided for in Section 209 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

Approved at the Department Convention on June 8, 2019.

Approved:   
State Commander

Attested to:   
Adjutant



REVIEWED **AUG 06 2019**  
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
  
KIM A. DE SHANO  
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL  
BY JOHNATHAN R. DUNCAN, DIRECTOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

August 6, 2019

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3401 Knipp Dr.  
Jefferson City, MO 65109-5702

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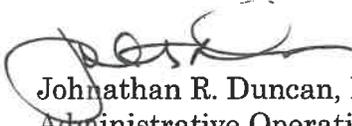
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Veterans of Foreign Wars

JUL 15 2019

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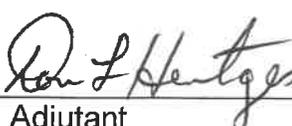
Section 3. Wherever these Bylaws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future National Bylaws the later shall prevail and be binding upon this Department as though written herein.

**ARTICLE XII  
POST CONSOLIDATIONS**

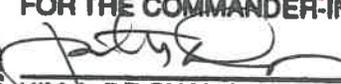
Section 1. Two or more Posts in the Department of Missouri, Veterans of Foreign Wars may consolidate as provided for in Section 209 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

Approved at the Department Convention on June 8, 2019.

Approved:   
State Commander

Attested to:   
Adjutant



REVIEWED **AUG 06 2019**  
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF  
  
KIM A. DE SHANO  
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL  
BY JOHNATHAN R. DUNCAN, DIRECTOR  
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS