



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 6**

Series 2024-2025

December 2024

(To be read or distributed at a regular Post meeting and filed)

1. The Winter Council of Administration Meeting and Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, and Teacher of the Year Banquet will be held on February 7 and 8, 2025, at Marriott St Louis Airport, 10700 Pear Tree Lane, St Louis, MO. All members of the Council, as well as Committee and Chairpersons, should make every effort to attend and be prepared to report in accordance with the agenda, which will be provided as we get closer to the meeting date. Room reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 314-423-9700. The Form for Banquet Tickets for the Voice of Democracy Banquet is attached

2. Post and District Commanders are reminded that the Department pays the **cost of the meal only for the student to attend the Voice of Democracy banquet**. Meals and lodging for the parents and guests of the student must be arranged through Department Headquarters and paid for by the District or Post, depending on District by-laws or standing rules. The banquet form will be sent out separately around the first week of November. The Posts/Districts will need to make the hotel arrangements for the students directly with the hotel either by calling the hotel or with the link on the attached flyer. You will need to have a credit card for the room reservation. **DO NOT SEND PAYMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR DISTRICT WINNER'S ROOM.** Please contact Angela at Department Headquarters if you have any questions.

3. I want to call your attention to the following section of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. Any Post not in compliance is subject to suspension.

Sec. 709 - Control of Units - "Any Post owning and/or operating, directly or by reason of a holding company or other entity substantially controlled by the Post or its members, a canteen, clubroom or other facility available to members or guests must maintain general liability insurance, including, if necessary or appropriate, liquor liability insurance. **Such insurance must be of a type and amount sufficient to protect the Post and must name, as additional insured's, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the Department in which such Post is located. Post shall ensure policies purchased include these additional insured statements.**

If the Liability and Dram Insurance Blocks on the State Dashboard are **RED** it means we do not have a "Certificate of Insurance" on file for your Post, or it has expired. Please forward a copy, or have your agent send a copy, to Department ASAP. You can mail to 3401 Knipp Dr. Jefferson City, MO. 65109 or email to adj@movfw.org or hqangela@vfwmo.org.

4. Posts are reminded that **ALL** Officer Changes must be reported to National and Department.

You can email a copy of the Officer Change Form to adj@movfw.org or Fax a copy to 1-573-636-2664 or mail a copy to: 3401 Knipp Dr, Jefferson City, MO 65109.

5. Section 105 of the National By-Laws is clear on Members in Good Standing in the Post. Members that have not paid their 2024 dues by their expiration date are not in good standing until the dues are paid. Section 220 of the National By-Laws states, "Any elective Post Officer removed by the Department Commander, by reason of failure to pay current dues ---shall not be eligible to serve in any Post office in the same administrative year in which the officer is removed. **Post Commanders and Quartermasters are encouraged to check their rosters and make sure their officers renew on time. We still have 8 Posts with at least one (1) Officer's Dues Expiring on December 31, 2024. Names will be sent to the Post and District Commanders.**

6. The VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. Will be March 2 thru 6, 2025. One Post Commander and one District Commander will have an opportunity to attend this with the Department Officers.

- Any Post Commander whose Post reaches 100% in their membership by 1/1 will be entered into a drawing to attend the VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, DC.
- Any District Commander whose District reaches 100% by 1/1 will be entered into a drawing to attend the VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, DC.

For more information, go to VFW.org / Media & Events / 2025 VFW Washington Conference.

7. All inspection reports should be mailed directly to the Department Inspector, Randle Tolliver, 6689 Highway B, Ellington, MO 63638-9219. If a Deputy Inspector wishes to claim mileage for travel in connection with the inspections, he/she must submit a voucher to the Department Inspector for approval.

8. The Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Scholarship program needs your support. When your Post and/or District make donations of \$25 to \$750+ donations, your Post/District will be listed in the State Convention ad book, with the possibility of free half and full-page ads for your Post/District. To date we have only received \$1,612.00, and our payout is \$11,900.00, please donate. See attached flyer for full details.

9. The 2024-25 Membership Campaign is now underway. As of today, November 27, 2024, the Dept. of MO is at 91.37%. The National Commander's goal, and ours, is to reach 102% by the end of the fiscal year. Now is the time to start calling your Annual and lapsed Members to check on them and urge them to renew as soon as possible. National Headquarters runs a membership incentive monthly. Watch your email or go on vfw.org for information.

10. Anyone requesting a Department Officer to attend a function must submit a **written request** to Department Headquarters at least 30 days prior to the date of the function. An e-mail to the Adjutant at adj@movfw.org is acceptable.

11. DISPLAYING MILITARY SERVICE SYMBOLS. Military service flags, insignias, etc. should be displayed in the following order (left to right as you face the flags): Army, Marine Corps,

Navy, Air Force, Space Force and then Coast Guard. The Coast Guard falls under Homeland Security, which is why, it may be older than the Space Force, but still goes last in the lineup.

12. HALF-STAFF U.S. FLAG ON DEC. 7. Public Law 103-308, passed in 1994, designates Dec. 7 as “National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day” and requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day.

13. All Posts should be using the Online Reporting Portal. If you have any member that cannot log on or have any questions or problems, please call Ken Allison at 636 448-3061 or Randall Craig at 573 312-3777. Or email Randall at webmaster@movfw.org or Ken at asstwebmaster@movfw.org.

14. **All Post are strongly encouraged to log onto the VFW Department of Missouri Webmail.** The Post account is post (your post #) @movfw.org; i.e., postxxxx@movfw.org; Please see your predecessor for current password. You can then change the password to whatever you want. Access to webmail is through the State website, www.movfw.org. Go to the top task bar and click on LOGIN and then click on Webmail. You will see in the middle “change email password”. Once this is completed, go back to the Webmail login screen, and go to Check Your Email. Enter your email address and password on the next screen. You should be in your emails. If you have any issues, please contact Randall Craig at 573-212-3777.

15. There are no District Meetings scheduled for the month of December.

16. On behalf of the Line Officers and Office Staff we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Official:
Susan L Kelb
Adjutant

By Order of:
Ric Depontee
Commander