



**HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. INC  
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 8**

Series 2024-2025

February 2025

**(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, 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 attached agenda. Room reservations can be made by calling the hotel at 314-423-9700.
2. The 2025 Department Convention will be held at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri, June 12 – June 15, 2025. Reservations for sleeping rooms become available on **February 10**. Currently, sleeping room reservations are restricted to a three (3) day stay and may be made by calling the hotel direct at 1-888-532-4338 or clicking the link on the attached flyer. Be sure to let them know you are with the VFW. Persons reserving three (3) days and later cancelling one (1) or two (2) will have the entire three (3) days cancelled. We do have an Overflow Hotel if Oasis is full or for anyone wanting to make a reservation for LESS than three (3) days, the hotel is: Holiday Inn & Suites of Springfield and can be reached at 417-865-8600.
3. Post and District Commanders should be reviewing the All-State program and know where you need to work to meet the requirements. **The program changes each year, so don't just assume you know the requirements.** District and Post All-State requirements are listed in the District/Post Commander handbook. **To qualify, all requirements, except membership goal, must be met and recorded at Department Headquarters by April 30.** In addition, this is the last chance your Post will have to attend a Council of Administration meeting. Make sure your District Commander is aware of your attendance.
4. The Veteran Service Officer Program is vital to our organization. Donations from Posts, Auxiliaries, and individuals on a continuing basis are critical to this program. Without your donations, we cannot continue to provide the service we are now providing and this program is what we are about. Remember, our Service Officers are employed by you, the VFW members in Missouri to assist your members and Veterans in your community in obtaining vital health care and VA benefits. **The State Commander's expectation is that every Post donate a minimum of \$3.00 per member.**
5. If your Post has not made a donation to the Veteran Service Officer Program or the Veteran and Military Support Program, please do so ASAP. These are requirements for your Post to earn All-State. **REMEMBER:** VSO checks must be mailed to Department HQs and VMS

donations must be made online at [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).

6. 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](mailto:adj@movfw.org) or [hqangela@vfwmo.org](mailto:hqangela@vfwmo.org).

7. 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](mailto:adj@movfw.org) or mail a copy to: 3401 Knipp Dr, Jefferson City, MO 65109.

8. Section 105 of the National By-Laws is clear on Members in Good Standing in the Post. Members that have not paid their 2025 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. For the next Quarter, We have 24 Posts with a total of 40 Officer's Dues Expiring prior to May 1, 2025.** This information will be included in the District Commanders packets at the Winter C of A.

9. The Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Scholarship program needs your support. Department needs Posts, Districts, and Auxiliaries to donate to cover these scholarships. Besides helping the kids, there are some good incentives to donate. Please see attached flyer.

10. The 2024-25 Membership Campaign is now underway. As of today, January 30, 2025 the Dept. of MO is at 94.13%, and are 23 on the National Membership list. Nebraska just passed up by .01%, so we need to step up our game. Now is the time to start calling your Annual Members to check on them and urge them to renew as soon as possible. Commanders need to scrub their Officer list and get them to renew their membership. Just like when we were in the Military, our Leaders should be setting the example for our members. Headquarters runs a membership incentive monthly. Watch your email or go on [vfw.org](http://vfw.org) for information.

11. 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](mailto:adj@movfw.org) is acceptable.

12. The deadline for submitting bids for the 2028 Department Convention is March 15, 2025, as prescribed by the Department By-Laws. Any Post or group of Posts wishing to submit a bid should contact Department Headquarters for the Convention hotel requirements and

coordination of the bid request.

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 Randall Craig at 573 312-3777 or Ken Allison at 636 448-3061. Or email Randall at [webmaster@movfw.org](mailto:webmaster@movfw.org). or Ken at [asstwebmaster@movfw.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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 573 312-3777.

15. These are the District Meetings scheduled for the month of February

<b>Dist.</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>POST</b>	<b>LOCATION/TIME</b>	<b>OFFICER</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
5	2/22/25	3976	Sugar Creek 5 pm	Commander	VOD/PP/ToY Dinner
5	2/23/25	3976	Sugar Creek 1 pm	Commander	District Meeting
6	2/2/25	4288	Corder 12 pm	Surgeon	VOD/PP District Meeting
7	2/15/25	2590	Carthage 10 am	Jr. Vice Cdr	VOD/PP District Meeting
8	2/2/25	5741	Leadington, 12 pm	Jr. Vice Cdr	VOD/PP District Meeting
12	2/15/25	4105	Florissant, 12 pm	Sr. Vice Cdr	District Meeting
18	2/1/25	473	Cabool, 10 am	Jr. Vice Cdr	District Meeting

Official:  
Susan Kelb  
Adjutant

By Order of:  
Ric DePontee  
Commander