



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 7**

Series 2023-2024

January 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 9 and 10, 2024, at Stoney Creek Hotel, 2601 S. Providence Road, Columbia, 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 573 442-6400. 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**. Lodging for the parents and guests of the student must be made directly with the hotel and paid for by the District or Post, depending on District by-laws or standing rules. Meals will need to be requested via the banquet form, the Department will pay for the winner's meal only and all other meals will need to be paid by District/Post, depending on District by-laws or standing rules. Please contact Angela at Department Headquarters if you have any questions.

3. There will be a MO. Veterans Commission (MVC) meeting on January 22, 2024 at 10 am. The meeting will be in the Truman State Office Bldg. 301 W. High Street, Jefferson City, MO. The meeting room is on the 4th.floor. There will be a MO. Assoc. of Veterans Organizations (MAVO) meeting at 1:00 pm that afternoon in the same room. You are invited and encouraged to attend both.

There will be a Veterans RALLY in the Capitol Rotunda at 8 am on January 23, 2024. After that we will split up and go visit our local Senators and Reps. to discuss our legislative priorities for this year. Attached is a list of our priorities for 2024.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. 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 currently have 12 Posts with at least one (1) Officer's Dues Expiring prior to February 1, 2024.**

7. The VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, DC. Will be March 3 thru 7, 2024. 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..

8. All inspection reports should be mailed directly to the Department Inspector, Randal Wansing, 41 Jamestown Dr. Saint Peters, MO. 63376-1335. 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.

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 2023-24 Membership Campaign is now underway. As of today, December 27, 2023 the Dept. of MO is at 89.88%. Now is the time to start calling your Annual 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.

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 is acceptable.

12. **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.

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 Ken at webmaster@movfw.org or Randall 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 Ken Allison at 636-448-3061.

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

Dist.	DATE	POST	LOCATION/TIME	OFFICER	REMARKS
1	1/13/24	858	Chillicothe 9 am	Jr. Vice Cdr.	D Mtg (PP & VOD)
3	1/21/24		2004 N Belt Hwy, St Joe, 1 pm	Sr. Vice Cdr.	District Meeting
5	1/20/24	5789	Lee's Summit, 1 pm	Commander	VOD/PP/TOY Dinner
5	1/21/24	5789	Lee's Summit, 1 pm		District Meeting
9	1/14/24	5077	O'Fallon, 1 pm	Jr. Vice Cdr.	District Meeting
14	1/21/24	3404	Springfield 12:30 pm		District Meeting
15	1/21/24	3174	Sikeston - 12 pm	Jr. Vice Cdr.	D Mtg. (PP/VOD/TOY)
17	1/21/24	5553	Bowling Green, 1 pm		District Meeting

Official:
 Donald L. Hentges
 Adjutant

By Order of:
 Charles Williams
 Commander

