



**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 9**

Series 2023-2024

March 2024

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

1. The 2024 Department Convention will be held at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri, June 6 – June 9, 2024. 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. 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.
2. **Deadline for receipt of Convention Book Ad's is May 10, 2024.** All Post and Districts are encouraged to give recognition to their officers by submitting an Ad for the Convention Book. Add cost are \$125 for Full Page and \$75 for Half Page. The book is being published in house. Please email or Fax Add request information to Angela @ Department HQ's. Her email is hqangela@movfw.org. The fax number is (573) 636-2664
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.**
4. Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure covering the nomination election, and installation of Post Officers. Post Commanders are reminded that the annual election of Post Officers must be held during the month of April. Nominations of Post Officers shall open in March and remain open until the Post is ready to vote at the April meeting. Post officers shall be installed in their respective offices prior to the convening of the Department Convention. Newly installed officers do not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed at the State Convention. Post-Election Report Forms are being mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete the form online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or they can complete the form and return directly to National Headquarters **immediately following** the election of Post Officers but not later than June 1, 2024.
5. Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure, each District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to

the convening of the Department Convention.

6. Post and Districts are reminded that sections 216, 416 and 516 of the Manual of Procedures states in part: “-----officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the Adjutant. ----officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Such proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office.”

7. Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure provides that delegates and alternates for the District Convention and meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of March 31.

8. If your Post has not made a donation to the Veterans 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 on line @ vfw.org.

9. 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.

10. 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 11 Posts with at least one (1) Officer’s Dues Expiring prior to April 1, 2024.**

11. The 2023-24 Membership Campaign is now underway. As of today, February 29, 2024 the Dept. of MO is at 93.01%. 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.

12. The deadline for submitting bids for the 2027 Department Convention is March 15, 2024,

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 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 no District Meetings scheduled for the month of March

Official:
Donald L. Hentges
Adjutant

By Order of:
Charles Williams
Commander