

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY UPDATE



Jan. 10, 2025

Greetings,

We hope you enjoy this issue of the National Council Monthly Update summarizing the pertinent happenings of your VFW departments.

Development

December marked another successful month for Development, capping off a strong end to the year. Information regarding the Year-End Campaign was shared in both the November and December Council Monthly Updates, encouraging everyone to promote the campaign through their social media channels. Running annually from November through December, the campaign raised \$1,195,296 in December of last year. This December, it concluded with a total of \$1,222,674—an increase of \$27,378 over the previous year.

While I had anticipated a larger year-over-year growth, surpassing the million-dollar mark in less than 30 days is a remarkable achievement that will greatly benefit the VFW's mission.

End-of-year (December) figures take a little longer to finalize completely. However, preliminary numbers indicate we have exceeded our monthly projection of \$7.3 million, currently sitting at \$9.1 million for the month. The month began with an unfortunate and uncontrollable situation: a press breakdown caused delays in one of our mailings. We closely monitored the situation, understanding the negative impact it could have on December's results to include the Year-End Campaign, as revenue was likely to be pushed into January, and we expected to fall short of projections.

Despite this setback, we were overwhelmed by the volume of major gifts that came in during year-end, which helped significantly offset the delays. Once December's figures are fully closed, we will conduct a deeper analysis of these contributions and provide additional details in next month's update.

Contact: VFW Development Director Kelly Jones, KellyJones@vfw.org.

Programs

- All-American Programmatic Requirements:
 - o Post-level Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries must be entered by midnight on January 31. The system will not accept any further Post-level entries after the deadline.
 - o The VFW Day of Service requirement is only for events that are conducted in May. Sign up at todaysvfw.org.vfw-day-of-service.



[VFW Day of Service - #StillServing](#)

The VFW Day of Service is an outgrowth of VFW's #StillServing campaign which highlights the countless ways veterans continue to serve in communities across America.

todaysvfw.org

- **National VFW Awards Reminder:**

Adjutant General Dan West has asked for your recommendations for these VFW awards if you believe you have a worthy candidate.

The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2025.

The National Awards and Citations Committee will meet to discuss and choose award recipients for presentation at the 126th VFW National Convention in Columbus, Ohio, in 2025, upon approval from the National Council of Administration.

The nominations will only be accepted through the links provided below.

Description of each award is on the form provided:

[VFW Distinguished Fraternal Award](#)

[VFW Distinguished Patriotic Award](#)

[VFW Distinguished Historical Award](#)

[VFW Distinguished Citizenship Award](#)

[VFW Distinguished Educational Award](#)

[VFW Distinguished Service Award](#)

Questions can be submitted directly to Lynn Rolf at the email below or by phone at 816.968.1116 (off.) or 913.290.1754 (cell).

Contact: VFW Programs Director Lynn W. Rolf, III, LRolf@vfw.org.

Human Resources

- **Promotion:**

- Jeff Wishneski was promoted to Assistant Director of Compensation and Pension Policy, National Veterans Services – DC Office

- **New Hires:**

- Harold (Hal) Roesch returned to the VFW as Executive Director of Foundation in the KC Office

- o Paul Dunlap began as a new Claims Consultant in National Veterans Services in the KC Office

- **Positions Actively Recruiting For:**

- o Member Services Advisor, Membership & Member Services – KC Office

Contact: VFW Human Resources Director Sari Maple, SMaple@vfw.org.

Membership and Member Services

- As of the end of December, our membership has passed 91% and we are on track to meet the Commander-in-Chief’s 102% requirement by the end of the year. Historically, we do tend to see recruiting slow down in the winter months, but we can keep our momentum strong by focusing on renewals, retention, and reinstates.
- Our next Membership Monday training topic “**Bringing Members Back – Focus on Retention,**” will be on Jan.13, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. CST. You can join in on this live training by going to <https://vfw.zoom.us/j/8300853240>. Please forward this link to any comrades who would benefit from this training. As always, the video will be archived on the Training & Support page of VFW.org as well as on our [VFW Membership Facebook page](#).
- If your Posts, Districts, or Departments need membership brochures, applications, or supplies to fulfill their recruiting and retention goals, they can be ordered online through our website. Simply log into vfw.org, click on the “Membership Recruiting Brochures Order Form” link, and place an order.
- The Online Membership System (OMS) is back up and running after our year-end processing. We thank all of you for your patience and continued work to strengthen our membership and meet the challenges set before us.
- Earlier this month, the VFW set up a recruiting booth at the Student Veterans of America national convention in Colorado, staffed by past National Commander-in-Chief Tim Borland and elite recruiter Judy King, bringing in a number of new members into the organization and helping us build a strong membership base for the future. If your Department has a potential recruiting event you would like our assistance in facilitating, please contact us at membership@vfw.org.

Contact: VFW Membership and Member Services Director David Prohaska, DProhaska@vfw.org.

Administrative Operations

- There are currently 37 Posts and one District under Department suspensions and one CIC suspension due to no election report:

State	Post	Charter city	Suspension expiration date
Arkansas	8532	Coal Hill	1.18.2025
California	1534	Desert Hot Springs	1.4.2025
California	1987	Blythe	2.19.2025
California	5551	Lucerne Valley	3.4.2025
California	6476	Colton	2.22.2025

California	10694	Santa Ana	2.14.2025
Colorado	Dist. 4		1.13.2025
Connecticut	6990	Colchester	1.18.2025
Connecticut	10169	Durham	1.18.2025
Georgia	4583	Jesup	2.4.2025
Georgia	5456	Elberton	3.4.2025
Illinois	4826	Hoopeston	NCOA appeal
Iowa	6792	Nashua	11.30.2024
Louisiana	3686	Jennings	1.14.2025
Louisiana	7196	Franklinton	2.1.2025
Massachusetts	144	Boston	3.17.2025
Massachusetts	6536	South Boston	Ongoing litigation
Massachusetts	9813	Holbrook	1.10.2025
Nebraska	8332	Arlington	1.15.2025
Nebraska	10724	Duncan	1.6.2025
New Jersey	2169	Millville	11.18.24 - CIC suspension
New Jersey	9563	Bellmawr	1.3.2025
Ohio	1079	Elyria	2.15.2025
Ohio	7200	West Farmington	1.15.2025
Oklahoma	11194	Konawa	2.17.2025
Pennsylvania	554	Somerset	1.18.2025
Pennsylvania	3491	Carmichaels	1.23.2025
Tennessee	1733	Knoxville	3.15.25
Texas	8621	Alice	3/18/2025
Texas	8552	Del Rio	1.24.2025
Texas	8791	Port Isabel	3.10.2025
Texas	8925	Austin	2.25.2025
Virginia	1211	Virginia Beach	1.12.2025
Virginia	7969	Bland	2.21.2025
Wisconsin	8123	De Soto	1.17.2025
Wisconsin	10173	Delavan	1.24.2025

- There were five defunct Posts:

State	Post No.	Termination Date
Colorado	501	12.17.2024
Kansas	3162	12.17.2024
Oklahoma	1843	12.17.2024
Tennessee	5033	12.16.2024
Tennessee	9673	12.12.2024

- Administrative Operations is engaged in five Article IX Disciplinary Actions:
 - o Georgia:
Post 6445 Life member – disciplinary hearing
 - o Kentucky:
Post 5906 Life member – summary disposition

- o New Jersey:
Post 3525 Dept. Jr. Vice Commander – disciplinary hearing
- o Oklahoma:
Post 1719 Life member – awaiting possible appeal
Post 4876 Life member – awaiting possible appeal
- There have been nine administrative removals/actions:
 - o Alabama:
Post 668 Commander – awaiting CIC’s decision
Post 668 Quartermaster – awaiting CIC’s decision
 - o Colorado:
District 4 Commander – submitted appeal
 - o Massachusetts:
Post 144 Commander – awaiting CIC’s appeal
Post 144 Quartermaster – awaiting CIC’s appeal
Post 144 Adjutant – awaiting CIC’s decision
 - o New York:
Post 348 Commander – awaiting possible appeal
Post 5494 Commander – awaiting possible appeal
 - o Tennessee:
Post 5266 Commander – awaiting CIC’s decision
- One pending 518:

Arkansas – Post No. 9095, due date Feb. 4, 2025

- Five Membership eligibility challenges since Dec. 5, 2024:

Member Name	Post No.	Dept	Due Date
Kenneth Crowley	2976	OK	1.13.2025
Lynn Hiestler	9199	PA	1.7.2025
Ronald Redpath	9199	PA	1.13.2025
Susan Rogers	8664	NY	1.21.2025
Laronia Neu	6018	NC	3.6.2025

- There have also been six voluntary resignations, and one termination.
- Administrative Operations has 125 Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation submissions for review. Since Dec. 5, 2024, 67 Bylaws.Articles of Incorporations have been received, 14 have been approved and distributed, and two have been returned for corrections and resubmission through proper channels.
- There have been eight total Charters from Dec. 5, 2024, produced:
 - o One New Post Charter
 - o Two Name Change Charters
 - o Four Post Perpetual Charters

- o One Auxiliary Replacement

Dept	Post.District No.	Unit Designation	Document Type
KY	12236	Post	New Charter
MI	7310	Post	Name Change Charter
CA	6435	Post	Name Change Charter
KY	5419	Post	Perpetual Charter
SC	9116	Post	Perpetual Charter
TX	12235	Post	Perpetual Charter
KY	12237	Post	Perpetual Charter
CA	5394	Post	Auxiliary Replacement

Department Inspections

- The following nine Departments have been identified and are scheduled for inspections. Those Departments that have been identified are as follows:
 - o Michigan – completed
 - o Delaware – completed
 - o Oklahoma – completed
 - o Mississippi – Jan. 7-9, 2025
 - o Utah – Jan. 22-24, 2025
 - o Pacific Areas – Feb. 5-7, 2025
 - o South Dakota – Feb. 24-26, 2025
 - o Washington – March 24-26, 2025
 - o Europe – April 22-24, 2025

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Quentin Carroll at QCarroll@vfw.org.

Information Technology

- A PCI compliance review is in progress.
- We are working on a new MFA authentication configuration for the replacement of A2C.
- Proxy configuration is being done so DC staff can remote in directly to the DC office which should speed up connectivity.
- We are working with Condado to create some Azure machines for test and proof of concept work while developing Command Post.
- Both the DC and KC main servers are coming to the end of life, and we have ordered replacements.

Contact: VFW Information Technology Director Sean Barnes, SBarnes@vfw.org.

VFW Foundation

- The VFW Foundation welcomes our new Executive Director Hal Roesch II. Hal has an intricate knowledge of the VFW as after joining the organization in 1991, he served at the Post, District and

Department levels before becoming the 112th VFW Commander-in-Chief in 2020-2021. Additionally, as a 20-year United States Air Force retiree, Hal personally understands the needs of America's service personnel, veterans and military families. We are confident that his leadership will be instrumental to the fulfillment of our mission as we enter a new phase of fundraising and program outreach.

Contact: VFW Director of Donor Relations Richard Freiburghouse, RFreiburghouse@vfw.org.

National Legislative Service

- **Dole Act Signed into Law:** The Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act, also known as the Dole Act, was officially signed into law by President Biden late last week. The [Dole Act](#) will expand VA benefits, modernize healthcare delivery, and cut through much of the red tape that prevents veterans, caregivers and other beneficiaries from receiving the care and services they deserve. Thanks to the hard advocacy work of the VFW – Student Veterans of America legislative fellows getting the VFW-championed Not Just A Number Act included as a provision within this comprehensive package, we believe the Dole Act will also help reduce veteran suicide.

Contact: VFW National Legislative Service Director Patrick Murray, PMurray@vfw.org.

National Veterans Service

- We here at NVS would like to wish you and your families a safe and happy new year and ask if you see a veteran in need, please remember to direct them to an accredited representative. A listing of accredited representatives can be found at vfw.org/assistance/va-claims-separation-benefits. Just use the “Find a Service Officer” tab on the right side of the screen to find an accredited representative in your area. With your help we may be able to make a veteran's new year a bit happier.
- Below are some key items that NVS has been working on in the past month:
 - NVS leadership participated in the Under Secretary for Health meeting VSO update.
 - NVS BDD participated in the Student Veterans of America convention claims clinic, assisting and counseling more than 30 veterans.
 - VFW's Pre-Discharge representatives briefed transitioning service members on VA benefits at military installations across the country. To find a BDD rep location visit: vfw.org/bdd.
 - NVS BDD team participated in the Air Force General Officer Transition Course.
 - NVS BDD team participated in the monthly Office of Transition and Economic Development meeting discussing TAP briefings with VSOs.
 - NVS health team attended the VA quarterly PACT ACT briefing.
 - NVS health team participated in the quarterly joint (DOD and VA) survivors forum.
 - NVS health team attended the VA Integrated Veterans Care quarterly meeting.

Contact: VFW National Veterans Service Director Michael Figlioli, MFiglioli@vfw.org.

Veterans of Foreign Wars, 406 W.
34th Street, Kansas City, Mo 64111
© 2025 All rights reserved. | ® TM SM
Trademarks and service marks of VFW.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

