

Nov. 14, 2025

Greetings,

We hope you enjoy this issue of the National Council Monthly Update summarizing the pertinent operations at VFW National Headquarters over the last month.

Development

We closed out October by sliding in just under the wire to exceed our \$4.8M goal — finishing slightly over \$5M. While it was a close call, it's important to recognize how current events across the country can influence the VFW's fundraising performance. As always, we will be monitoring closely.

CTV (Connected TV streaming) officially launched Nov. 1. The campaign focuses on building the VFW's sustainer audience, with the flexibility to scale ads during key giving moments (Veterans Day, Giving Tuesday and Year-End) and pull back in between to maximize return on investment. Because our outreach is highly modeled and targeted, response data will be closely monitored so we can refine our audience segments based on demographics and engagement.

It's that time of year when fundraising activity is at its peak. If your members ask about the fundraising efforts conducted by National Headquarters, please let them know that donations made by members directly support their own Department. These funds are vital to ensuring Departments have the resources needed to continue the important work being done at the local level to serve veterans, their families, and their communities. If members have any questions or concerns you are not comfortable addressing, please have them contact VFW Donor Services at **1.833.839.4483** or email **vfwfundraising@vfw.org.**

Contact: VFW Development Director Kelly Jones, <u>KellyJones@vfw.org</u>.

VFW Programs

Dear NCOA members:

I hope this message finds you well. The National Awards and Citations Committee will convene via Zoom on March 27, 2026, to discuss and select recipients for the VFW National Awards, which will be presented at the 2026 VFW National Convention in Reno, Nevada, pending approval from the National Council of Administration. Your thoughtful recommendations play a vital role in recognizing and honoring outstanding service within our organization.

Adjutant General Dan West has asked for your valued input to ensure we recognize those who have made significant contributions. Your recommendations help us honor exceptional individuals and strengthen the spirit of our organization. If you have participated in the nomination process previously, thank you for your dedication and continued support.

The following awards are open for nominations:

• VFW Distinguished Fraternal Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens who have furthered the aims or ideas of VFW camaraderie. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed efforts to preserve and strengthen a spirit of good friendship and loyalty among VFW members, assisted surviving spouse/orphans of deceased members, or assisted vulnerable and at-risk comrades above and beyond what others would or have done.

• VFW Distinguished Patriotic Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens in recognition of their local or national patriotic activities. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed efforts that fostered true patriotism by showing and demonstrating a feeling of passion, devotion, and loyalty to America and extended the institutions, traditions, customs, and establishments of American Freedom above and beyond what others would normally do.

• VFW Distinguished Historical Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens for contributions to a better understanding of our American way of life, history, and institutions. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed efforts that perpetuated the memory and history of our dead and/or displayed the importance of American history and why that history is important in our institutions above and beyond what others would do.

• VFW Distinguished Citizenship Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens for service rendered through outstanding charitable endeavors to the country or local efforts. Nominations must show how the nominee displayed a high level of benevolent actions and philanthropic allegiance supporting veterans, civil, political and social rights that exemplifies the duties and privileges of being an American citizen above and beyond what others would do.

• VFW Distinguished Educational Award

To recognize VFW members or citizens for outstanding contribution to the education of the intrinsic values of American freedom and citizenship. Nominations must show how the nominee exemplified through formal, informal or non-formal educational work that teaches the best attributes of patriotism and intrinsic values of knowledge through everyday life above and beyond what others would do.

If you know of a deserving candidate, please submit your nomination by March 6, 2026, via the Programs Dashboard tool. I do understand that not every NCOA member or Department leader has the entry tab on the dashboard. If you do not, please work with your Department HQs, District officers, and/or Post officers to submit your nomination.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at the email address below or by phone.

Thank you for your commitment and for helping us celebrate excellence in service.

Contact: VFW Programs Director Lynn W. Rolf, III, <u>LRolf@vfw.org</u>.

Human Resources

• New Hires:

- Sarita Ramos is a new Claims Consultant in National Veterans Services in the DC Office.
- o Hellen Edwards is a new Claims Consultant in National Veterans Services in the DC Office.
- o Johnny Neal is the new Assistant Director of Membership in the KC Office.
- Current Vacant Positions in Recruiting Process:
 - o Engraver, Supply & Logistics KC Office

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

Membership and Member Services

- Our membership growth continues on pace to meet the Commander-in-Chief's 101% membership goal. We are seeing increases in recruiting and life member conversion compared to this point last year, which is a good sign. As well, a strong focus on retention is helping us on the way to membership growth.
- Our first "Membership Monday" online training seminar will be on Dec. 8, at 7:30 p.m. CST. This will be an interactive training video using Microsoft Teams. Any VFW or Auxiliary member is welcome to join in to learn and ask questions. The link as well as our first topic will be posted to our VFW Membership Facebook page.
- We are continuing to assist with Department-level outreach. VFW National staff will be out at the Student Veterans of America National Conference this January in Colorado Springs, Colorado, to assist in recruiting and training. If your Department is looking to take part in state-level events and would like support or possible reimbursement of costs using the new Membership Outreach Event Grant, have your Department Quartermaster contact the Membership Department at 888.564.6839 or email us at membership@vfw.org.
- We are currently running a re-activation campaign, emailing lapsed members to inform them about why their membership is important to our mission and urging them to reactivate their VFW membership. In the first week, we have seen a number of these lapsed members renew their memberships and help us strengthen our numbers.
- 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 wfw.org, click on the "Membership Recruiting Brochures Order Form" link, and let us know what you need!

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

Administrative Operations

Administrative Operations Updates and Actions Since Oct. 5, 2025:

• There are currently 39 Posts under Department Suspension

State	Post	Charter city	Suspension expiration date
California	8900	Fresno	1.9.2026

Colorado	1247	Grand Junction	12.11.2025
Colorado	4281	Holly	11.8.2025
Colorado	8449	Bennett	11.8.2025
Delaware	2863	Richardson Park	1.1.2026
Florida	10174	St. Petersburg	Pending req for revocation of charter hearing
Georgia	4828	Royston	1.16.2026
Illinois	630	Urbana	12.23.2025
Illinois	1104	Carlinville	12.23.2025
Illinois	1241	Staunton	12.23.2025
Illinois	1301	Marion	12.23.2025
Illinois	2199	Joliet	12.23.2025
Illinois	2978	Chicago	12.23.2025
Illinois	3601	Paris	12.23.2025
Illinois	5790	Mount Olive	12.15.2025
Indiana	1550	Greencastle	9.2.2025
Kansas	112	Wichita	1.24.2026
Maryland	10078	Baltimore	10.8.2025
Massachusetts	6536	South Boston	Ongoing litigation
Mississippi	7341	Columbus	1.21.2026
Missouri	5329	Albany	11.30.2025
Missouri	9064	Elsberry	12.15.2025
Nebraska	10045	Deweese	6.15.2025
New Mexico	7688	Questa	11.16.2025
Ohio	1042	Elmwood Place	1.9.2026
Ohio	2850	Cleveland	12.15.2025
Ohio	6861	Fairborn	12.16.2025
Oklahoma	5307	Salina	1.11.2026
Oklahoma	9265	Oklahoma City	1.1.2026
Oklahoma	11201	Chickasha	1.9.2026
Pennsylvania	6675	Pittsburgh	11.5.2025
Rhode Island	2812	Thornton	8.29.2025
South Carolina	9138	Fort Mill	11.20.2025
South Carolina	11251	Chesterfield	11.20.2025
Texas	9179	Stamford	1.22.2026
Vermont	9653	Morrisville	12.8.2025
Virginia	6975	Bristol	11.18.2025
Washington	3057	Westport	12.16.2025
West Virginia	4595	Marlinton	11.21.2025

• There are currently 15 Posts under Commander-in-Chief suspension due to not submitting a 2025-26 election report. These suspensions are authorized a 30 or 60 day extension.

Dept	Post Number	City	Status
Alaska	10032	Cordova	11.16.2025
California	8399	North Richmond	11.16.2025
California	12114	Tehachapi	11.16.2025

Georgia	4904	Bainbridge	12.16.2025
Illinois	4602	Depue	11.16.2025
Massachusetts	7608	Georgetown	12.16.2025
Michigan	2777	Burton	12.16.2025
New Jersey	10184	Parsippany	12.16.2025
Oregon	4065	Jefferson	12.16.2025
Oregon	12123	Seaside	11.16.2025
Pennsylvania	20	Philadelphia	11.16.2025
Pennsylvania	245	Sellersville	12.16.2025
Pennsylvania	5937	Dickson City	12.16.2025
Pennsylvania	8051	Philadelphia	11.16.2025
Pennsylvania	8225	Beaver Meadows	11.16.2025

• There were seven Post Consolidations:

State	Post No.	Consolidated w.Post No.	Date Approved
Georgia	5743	2785	10.6.2025
Illinois	11018	6791	10.23.2025
Illinois	5696	3873	10.23.2025
Michigan	3897	8945	10.22.2025
Minnesota	2762	955	10.6.2025
Pennsylvania	6528	3451	10.31.2025
West Virginia	9151	573	10.22.2025

• There were 23 Defunct Posts:

State	Post No.	Termination Date
Alabama	6020	10.29.2025
Colorado	4001	10.6.2025
Connecticut	6726	10.13.2025
Georgia	4382	10.17.2025
Indiana	1550	10.24.2025
Iowa	1655	10.17.2025
Kansas	8746	10.21.2025
Kansas	12157	10.17.2025
Kentucky	7225	10.20.2025
Minnesota	5160	10.21.2025
Missouri	3416	10.29.2025
Montana	4725	10.29.2025
Nebraska	181	10.24.2025
New Jersey	192	10.17.2025
New Jersey	376	10.17.2025
New Jersey	4914	10.17.2025
North Dakota	3379	10.17.2025
Ohio	5647	10.21.2025
Ohio	9866	10.13.2025
South Dakota	2821	10.17.2025
South Dakota	5751	10.17.2025

Texas	8136	10.7.2025
Vermont	2571	10.24.2025

• There was One New Post:

State	City	Date Instituted	Post No.
Tennessee	White Pine	10.21.2025	12244

- Administrative Operations is engaged in 15 Article IX Disciplinary Actions:
 - o Alabama:

Post 5658 (District Trustee & Post Sr. Vice Commander) – summary disposition

o Arizona:

Post 285 (District Quartermaster & Post Commander) – disciplinary action

o California:

Post 6476 (Life member) – disciplinary action

o Connecticut:

Post 399 (annual member) – disciplinary hearing

o Georgia:

Post 4346 (Life member) – CIC to issue disciplinary hearing panel

o New Jersey:

Post 7677 (Life member) – disciplinary action

o North Carolina:

Post 6018 (Past Dept. Commander) – disciplinary hearing

o Oklahoma:

Post 9265 (Post Quartermaster) – awaiting Commander-in-Chief's decision

o Oregon:

Post 4015 (Past Dept. Adjutant/Quartermaster) – disciplinary action

o Pennsylvania:

Post 6493 (Life member) – disciplinary action

o Texas:

Post 76 (Life member) – disciplinary action (1)

Post 76 (Life member) – disciplinary action (2)

o Washington:

Post 1135 (Post Sr. Vice Commander) – disciplinary action

o Wisconsin:

Post 10407 (Life member) – disciplinary action

o Wyoming:

Post 3558 (Past Dept. Commander) – disciplinary action

• There were 12 Administrative Removals/Actions:

o Florida:

Post 8203 Commander – awaiting possible appeal

o Georgia:

Post 4828 Commander – awaiting possible appeal

o Indiana:

Post 5864 Commander – awaiting possible appeal

o New York:

Post 8728 Commander – awaiting CIC's decision

o Oklahoma:

Post 2976 Commander – awaiting possible appeal

Post 9265 Commander – awaiting possible appeal

Post 9265 Sr. Vice Commander – awaiting possible appeal

Post 9265 Jr. Vice Commander – awaiting possible appeal

o South Dakota:

Past Dept. Commander – submitted appeal

o Tennessee:

District 11 Commander – awaiting possible appeal

o Texas:

Post 3992 Commander – submitted appeal

o Washington:

Post 3057 Quartermaster – submitted appeal

- There is one Pending 518:
 - o Oregon:

Post No. 661 – Due Nov. 17, 2025

• There were eight Membership Eligibility Challenges:

Member Name	Post No.	Dept	Due Date
Shawn Durnen	MAL	WA	11.17.2025
Richard Jacoby	3932	IA	11.29.2025
Daniel Deal	788	IA	11.29.2025
Michael Vigil	1247	CO	12.9.2025
Tommy Earl Tousha	5621	TX	12.9.2025
Kenneth Martin	5171	KY	12.14.2025
Brian Wedemeyer	7061	AZ	12.29.2025
Marcus Choate	1674	AR	1.3.2025

- There have also been six Voluntary Resignations, one Voluntary Surrender, three Terminations, one Reinstatement and three found Eligible.
- Administrative Operations has 77 Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation submissions for review. Since Oct. 5, 2025, 120 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporations have been received, 111 have been

approved and distributed, and five have been returned for corrections and resubmission through proper channels.

- There have been 30 total Charters produced:
 - o Seven Post Consolidation Charters
 - o Three Post Replacement Charters
 - o Three Post Perpetual Charters
 - o Three Post Name Change Charters
 - o One Post New Charter
 - o One Post Location Change Charter
 - o Three District Replacement Charters
 - o Nine Auxiliary Replacement Charters

Dept	Post/District No.	Unit Designation	Document Type
ОН	6428	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
NY	420	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
LA	3665	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
AZ	285	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
PAC	9876	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
CT	308	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
FL	10148	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
AR	455	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
ID	4000	Auxiliary	Replacement Charter
WI	2	District	Replacement Charter
MN	955/2762	Post	Consolidation Charter
GA	2785/5743	Post	Consolidation Charter
MS	12216	Post	Perpetual Charter
TX	12221	Post	Perpetual Charter
GA	12239	Post	Perpetual Charter
CT	6933	Post	Name Change Charter
ОН	6387	Post	Name Change Charter
CO	12174	Post	Name Change Charter
GA	4625	Post	Replacement Charter
MI	6896	Post	Location Change Charter
MO	12243	Post	New Charter
WV	2	District	Replacement Charter
HI	352	Post	Replacement Charter
VA	8046	Post	Replacement Charter
AZ	8	District	Replacement Charter
MI	8945/3897	Post	Consolidation Charter
WV	573/9151	Post	Consolidation Charter
IL	3873/5696	Post	Consolidation Charter
IL	6791/11018	Post	Consolidation Charter
PA	3451/6528	Post	Consolidation Charter

- **Department Inspections:** The following 10 Departments have been identified and scheduled for Inspections:
 - o California Dec. 3-5, 2025
 - o Connecticut April 6-8, 2026
 - o Florida Nov. 19-21, 2025
 - o Kansas Inspection completed.
 - o Minnesota March 11-13, 2026
 - o Montana April 22-24, 2026
 - o New Jersey Jan. 26-28, 2026
 - o Pennsylvania Dec. 17-19, 2025
 - o Tennessee Jan. 7-9, 2026
 - o Texas Feb. 9-11, 2026

Contact: VFW National Administrative Operations Director Quentin Carroll, QCarroll@vfw.org.

National Legislative Service

- VFW Junior Vice Commanders Training: VFW senior leaders and staff convened in Kansas City, Missouri, for the annual Junior Vice Commanders training conference. The event featured comprehensive presentations on all aspects of the VFW designed to equip attendees to fulfill their current responsibilities, and to prepare them for future leadership roles within the organization. VFW National Legislative Service Deputy Director Nancy Springer briefed on legislative advocacy, outlining strategies to engage and mobilize VFW and Auxiliary members in support of the VFW's legislative priorities. She encouraged attendees to join Action Corps to stay informed on relevant legislative activity and respond to action alerts so Congress hears directly from our advocates on important veteran issues.
- VFW Participates in Consumer Protection Roundtable: VFW Washington Office staff participated in a roundtable with veteran organizations and advocacy groups convened by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to address concerns related to the bureau and the ongoing government shutdown. CFPB staff clarified that it remains operational during the shutdown because it is funded by quarterly transfers from the Federal Reserve, not congressional appropriations. VFW National Legislative Service Associate Director Joy Craig urged CFPB to remain focused on monitoring consumer complaints by service members under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. VFW National Legislative Service Associate Director Joe Grassi inquired about CFPB investigations regarding unaccredited claims consultants, which the VFW refers to as "Claim Sharks" and called for a comprehensive report on veteran complaints about these predatory actors. Learn more about how to submit a financial product or service complaint.

Contact: VFW National Legislative Service Director Kristina Keenan, KKeenan@vfw.org.

National Veterans Service

With Veterans Day this week, our accredited representatives were busier than ever helping veterans and their families earn the benefits they have earned and deserve. As always, if you see a veteran in need please

direct them to a local accredited representative. A listing can be found on the VFW website at wfw.org/Assistance.

Here is a breakdown of what we have recently accomplished:

- NVS Assistant Director for Compensation Policy attended a discussion with the Washington Office Executive Director and the VA Inspector General.
- NVS Associate Director of the KC Service Office received a commendation and proclamation on behalf of the VFW from the City of Kansas City.
- NVS posted an updated Post Benefits Advisor guide to the VFW website (formerly the Post Service Officers Guide).
- NVS trained two new Claims Consultants for the National Capital Regional Benefits Office.
- NVS QA Specialist conducted a site visit to Service Offices in the Department of Pennsylvania.
- NVS leadership attended the Leidos VSO meeting on VA EHRM (Electronic Health Record).
- NVS pre-discharge representatives briefed transitioning service members on VA benefits at military installations across the country.
- NVS BDD conducted its annual virtual training conference.
- NVS BDD team members participated in the Army General Officer TAP program, counseling individual GOs.
- NVS BDD leadership is conducting interviews for vacant JB Andrews and JB Myer positions.
- NVS health team collaborated with VA ATLAS at the monthly meeting.
- NVS health leadership participated in The Military Coalition meeting.
- NVS health team participated in The Hill's Veterans Voices symposium.
- NVS health team participated in instructing new NCRBO service officers.

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

