

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA**

General Orders No. 1

2018-19 Series

1. Having been elected Commander-in-Chief and having been installed in office in accordance with the By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby assume command.

2. The following officers have been duly elected and installed by the 119th National Convention and will be accorded the recognition due them:

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

William J. "Doc" Schmitz, Post 524, Coming, New York

Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Harold J. "Hal" Roesch, II, Post 3219, Phoebus, Virginia

Quartermaster General

Debra L. Anderson, Post 7356, Parkville, Missouri

National Chaplain

Charlene K. Cobb, Post 10173, Delavan, Wisconsin

Judge Advocate General

Daniel J. Nail, Post 5097, Thibodaux, Louisiana

Surgeon General

Ruth A. "Ruthie" Fairchild, Post 315, New Castle, Pennsylvania

3. All previous appointments having expired are declared null and void.

4. The following appointments are hereby announced:

Adjutant General

Kevin C. Jones, Post 7356, Parkville, Missouri

National Chief of Staff

Jerry W. Herker, Post 3386, Airway Heights, Washington

Inspector General

Charles L. "Charley" Shoemaker, Post 12003, Lansing, Kansas

Assistant Adjutant General & Executive Director, Washington Office
Robert E. Wallace, Post 9503, Bayville, New Jersey

Assistant Adjutant General, Administration & Programs
Kim A. DeShano, Post 2216, Staunton, Virginia

Director, Administration & Operations, Washington Office
Robert H. Jackson, Post 2725, Frankenmuth, Michigan

Director, Administrative Operations
David E. Prohaska, Post 4434, Belleville, Michigan

Director, Communications, Publications & Public Affairs, Washington Office
Joseph E. Davis, Post 3391, Pago Pago, American Samoa

Director, Human Resources
Steven A. Chambers, Post 7397, Lenexa, Kansas

Director, Membership
Rick L. Butler, Post 7356, Parkville, Missouri

Director, National Legislative Service
Carlos U. Fuentes, Post 5627, College Park, Maryland

Director, National Security and Foreign Affairs
Johnathon N. Towles, Post 3150, Arlington, Virginia

Director, National Veterans Service
Ryan M. Gallucci, Post 3150, Arlington, Virginia

Director, Operations
Bernard K. Hill, Post 7356, Parkville, Missouri

Director, VFW Programs
Lynn W. Rolf, III, Post 56, Leavenworth, Kansas

Director, VFW Properties
Brian T. Opalewski, Post 7397, Lenexa, Kansas

National Sergeant-at-Arms
Bryan P. O'Brien, Post 2550, Dunedin, Florida

5. For purposes of clarification, we do not operate as a men's organization or a ladies organization, but as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its VFW Auxiliary.

6. Every Post chartered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will be expected to participate in the following programs during the 2018-2019 year: Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teachers' Awards, "Buddy"® Poppy and Veterans and Military Support Programs. Additionally, it is necessary that all Post and Department Commanders comply with all provisions of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure and Ritual.

7. Post Commanders and District Commanders are directed to forward all resolutions or communications relative to federal legislation or to the policy or procedure of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or any other governmental agency, to their respective Department Headquarters for consideration and referral to the Adjutant General. Department Commanders will not take direct action on any such resolutions or communications without first obtaining full knowledge of existing National Headquarters policies governing such legislation or agencies. Posts, County Councils, Districts and officers and members thereof shall not publicly communicate or promulgate any such resolutions until reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief.

8. DEPARTMENT DUES RESERVE: Due to the passage of By-Law Amendment B-38 at the 119th National Convention, it is no longer necessary for Departments to maintain a dues reserve fund effective August 24, 2018.

9. Attention of commanders at all levels is directed to Section 703 of the National By-Laws which requires that each accountable officer be bonded with an indemnity company in the sum at least equal to the amount of the liquid assets for which he may be accountable.

10. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218(a)(11)(b), Manual of Procedure, Trustees, which states that Post Trustees shall prepare and submit quarterly, through their Post Commander, a Post Trustees' Report of Audit (VFW Store product #4214) to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector. The first report is due at the close of September. Do not mail these reports to National Headquarters.

11. Attention of Department and Post Commanders is directed to the requirement of timely filing of Internal Revenue Form 990 and 990/T, where applicable. Forms may be secured from your local Post Office or branch office of the Internal Revenue Service.

12. Posts are urged to start planning suitable programs now for the observance of Veterans Day (see Section 223 of the Manual of Procedure).

13. The passage of Manual of Procedure Amendment M-30 has modified Section 1001(25) to read, "The dispensation and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or the use of smoking/vaping products in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings are prohibited."

14. A thorough program of Post inspection is necessary to ensure compliance with National and Department By-Laws and directives. Department and District Inspectors shall make every effort to inspect every Post under their cognizance on an annual basis and correct such discrepancies as may be disclosed.

15. U.S. Army ARDEC has issued guidance on the operation and maintenance of the M1 Garand. The manual can be found in the VFW Training & Support section at www.vfw.org or you can visit the M1 Garand Associated Website: www.m1garandtraining.com.

16. The distribution of VFW "Buddy"® Poppies will be conducted according to the provisions set forth in Sections 711 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure. Department, District, County Council and Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of "Buddy"® Poppies in their respective areas. All profits accruing from the distribution of "Buddy"® Poppies shall be used in accordance with Section 704 of the National By-Laws and the Manual of Procedure.

Respectfully,



Danny Anderson
State Commander

ATTEST:



Eugene L. Perrino Sr.
State Adjutant/Quartermaster