VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

March 8, 2024

Matthew Seebeck, Commander
District 1, Department of Connecticut, VFW
50 Newtown Ave
Norwalk, CT 06851

Re: Proposed Amended Bylaws

Dear Comrade Seebeck:

Receipt is acknowledged of the proposed revised Bylaws for District No. 1, Department of Connecticut, submitted through channels for the review of the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with Section 402 of the Manual of Procedure.

These documents have been designated amended Bylaws to reflect their replacement of previously reviewed Bylaws.

A review of the proposed amended Bylaws discloses that they are in compliance with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual, and laws and usages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

A copy of the reviewed amended Bylaws has been retained for our files, another forwarded to your Department Headquarters, and two sets herewith returned.

Sincerely,

Quentin S. Carroll, Director
Administrative Operations

QSC: sb
Enc: Revised Bylaws (2)
cc: Department Adjutant (1)

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111
Office 816.756.3390
Fax 816.968.1157

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200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
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NATIONAL BYLAWS/MANUAL OF PROCEDURE CONFLICT

DISTRICT 1 CONNECTICUT

Article XIII, Section XII
Remove the entire section as there are no provisions of the National Bylaws that allow for or cover "excused" absences.

Reason: to conform to Section 420 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

Sent
To KC
6-27-23

BYLAWS

May 14, 2022

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS®

DISTRICT 1

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES, INC.

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PREAMBLE

We, honorably discharged officers and enlisted personnel of the Army, Marine Corps. Navy, Air Force, Space Force and Coast Guard of the United States of America, do unite to establish a permanent organization.

ARTICLE I: ORGANIZATION

SECTION I

This organization shall be known as the District 1 Department of Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Inc.

SECTION II

It shall consist of all the Posts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in Fairfield County (geographically), State of Connecticut.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTS

SECTION I

The purposes of this organization are fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to perpetuate the memory and history of the deceased, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to foster true patriotism; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies.

SECTION II

The District shall promote by all proper means the welfare and advancement of the Posts affiliated with the District.

SECTION III

The Posts affiliated with said District shall support and cooperate fully by accepting decisions of the District on matters under its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III: DISTRICT DUES

SECTION I

District dues shall be assessed using the June 30th membership figures, and are payable at the rate of 50 cents per member, per Post prior to December 31st of the year assessed, payable to the District Quartermaster.

SECTION II

The District Quartermaster shall notify each Post Quartermaster, by mail or electronic mail, the amount of their Post dues.

SECTION III

The accounts of the District Quartermaster shall be audited in accordance with the provisions of the Nation By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

SECTION IV

The District Quartermaster shall be bonded in accordance with the provisions of the Nation By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

SECTION I

The regular business meeting of the District shall be held once per month, beginning in August and ending with the District Convention in May. Time and location are at the discretion of the Commander. District officers will meet and participate in the Department Convention in June.

SECTION II

The District Commander shall call a special meeting upon vote of a majority of the District members present at a District Convention or a regular meeting or upon receipt of a signed written request of a majority of the Posts in the District. The District Commander may call a special meeting whenever in his opinion it may be necessary for the welfare of the District.

SECTION III

In the event a special meeting is called, the District Adjutant shall give notice, in writing via mail or e-mail, to Post Commanders of Posts within the District and District Officers of the time and place of any special meeting and of the business to be transacted, such notice to be given in such manner as to reasonably reach each Post Commander, District Officer, Past District Commanders and the Department Commander at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the time set for the meeting. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting except that for which the meeting was called.

SECTION IV

The minimum number of delegates required to constitute a quorum at regular meetings and the District Convention shall be as prescribed in the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

SECTION V

Meetings of District One shall rotate from Post to Post within the District. Meetings may be held at other locations if agreed upon by a vote of the District. All bids to host a District meeting should be submitted, to the District Commander, prior to the District Convention meeting or membership meeting in May.

SECTION VI

A quorum for meetings shall consist of not less than 50% of Posts in District One represented by at least one delegate. For the purposes of this section, the District Commander shall be considered a delegate.

ARTICLE V: ORDER OF BUSINESS

SECTION I

The order of business shall be as prescribed in the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

SECTION II

The order of business may be modified or changed at any time with the consent of the delegates.

ARTICLE VI: CREDENTIALS

SECTION I

Immediately after the annual election of Post officers, the Post Adjutant shall furnish to the District Adjutant a copy of the Post Election Report.

ARTICLE VII: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Duties of the elected and appointed officers shall be as prescribed in the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure and Ritual.

SECTION I

All District Officers shall wear uniforms at all stated meetings at the Commander's discretion.

ARTICLE VIII: COMPOSITION

SECTION I

The District Convention and District meetings shall be as prescribed in the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

SECTION II

The District Quartermaster shall, during the month of March, provide one (1) Past District Commander Pin, to be presented to the retiring District Commander. If District funds in the Quartermaster's account are not sufficient to provide for the purchase of the pin, the Quartermaster shall notify the District at a regular meeting in January so that the District may take action as it may consider necessary or desirable.

ARTICLE IX: OFFICERS

SECTION I

The elected officers of District 1 shall be: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, and three (3) Trustees. Trustees shall be elected for terms of One (1), Two (2) and Three (3) years, and thereafter one Trustee shall be elected each year for a term of Three (3) years.

SECTION II

The District Commander shall appoint an Adjutant, Chaplain, Service Officer and Inspector. The District Commander may appoint a Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Chief of Staff and Officer of the Day.

SECTION III

The District Commander shall appoint all committees and appointive officers for the good and betterment of the District.

ARTICLE X: ARREARAGES OF POSTS

SECTION I

Any Post in arrears, for membership reports, National, Department or District dues, Poppy Money, supplies money, or other financial obligations, or any Post failing to have the office of Quartermaster bonded, or to submit Post Trustees Report of Audit, shall be deprived of all representation in District, Department, and National Conventions. All rights shall be restored promptly upon proper adjustment of such deficiencies.

SECTION II

The District Commander shall furnish the Department a list of all Posts under the Commander's jurisdiction which are in arrears of dues, as required in the Department Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI: RESOLUTIONS

SECTION 1

Resolutions must be typewritten and submitted in triplicate in order to receive consideration. Resolutions from Posts shall be signed by the Post Commander and Post Adjutant.

SECTION II

Member Posts shall clear appropriate resolutions through the District. The District Commander and District Adjutant shall sign an endorsement or disapproval of each resolution.

SECTION III

The Chairman of the Resolutions committee is authorized and empowered to return to the Post any resolution not properly drawn in accordance with the Bylaws.

ARTICLE XII: FUNDS

SECTION I

Expenditures of funds shall be made only when duly authorized by the delegates of the District, at a stated or special meeting.

SECTION II

All funds shall be deposited promptly by the Quartermaster in a bank.

SECTION III

The Annual District 1 Testimonial Dinner shall be held at the discretion of the District Commander and President. The month, date, and time will be determined by the Commander and President. Net proceeds shall be divided equally between the District 1 Commander, and the District 1 Auxiliary President to defray expenses related to their offices.

ARTICLE XIIa: ENDORSEMENTS

SECTION I

Any member in good standing in District 1 seeking a Department Office or National Office can seek the endorsement of District 1 at any time during the year.

SECTION II

Endorsement for candidates from outside District 1 shall not be made until the State (Department) Convention.

ARTICLE XIII: MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION I

No officer, group of officers, committees, or members shall pledge the name of the District or incur any expenditure or contract any obligation without first having obtained the approval of the District.

SECTION II

In accordance with the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, the Quartermaster shall be the treasurer of all committees handling District funds.

SECTION III

The Chairman of all committees handling District funds shall submit a detailed and itemized report of all receipts and expenditures, immediately following the termination of the committee, or sooner if directed by the District. All such reports shall carry the signatures and approval of the majority of the committee.

SECTION IV

The District Quartermaster shall be bonded at the expense of the District in accordance with Section 703 of the National Bylaws.

SECTION V

If available, the District Commander shall receive reasonable funds for the District Commander's State Convention room(s) and expenses.

SECTION VI

The District Commander is authorized to purchase fifteen (15) District Officer badges and District meeting cards one time during his/her term of office.

SECTION VII

Official unforms, will be at the discretion of the Commander of District 1.

SECTION VIII

The District officers or any member of the District shall not in any manner dispose of any property without the proper action of the District delegates.

SECTION IX

In all District procedure not provided by the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure or these Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the authority, and it shall be the duty of

the District Judge Advocate, in an advisory capacity when called upon, to interpret and apply the proper rules.

SECTION X

No member will be permitted to speak, on any one subject pro or con more than twice; the first time, no longer than five (5) minutes, and the second time, no longer than three (3) minutes, with the exception of the committee reports, and recommendations, and visiting guests who have a message to impart. The Officer of the Day shall time all members speaking and make it known when a speaker has exceeded the time limit.

SECTION XI

The accounts of the District Quartermaster shall be audited quarterly by the District Trustees. The result of the audit shall be reported to the District delegates at the following meeting.

ARTICLE XIV: LIAISON

SECTION I

The District shall be the intermediary between the member Posts and the Department of Connecticut. All matters affecting the District organization in the individual Posts shall be sent to the District for action, and thereafter sent to the Department by the District.

ARTICLE XV: AMENDMENTS

SECTION I

Amendments to these Bylaws shall be presented in writing at a District Convention and read as resolutions. They shall be put in the minutes of a previous meeting and notice of the proposed amendment(s) sent to each post in good standing, together with a notice of stated District Convention, at which such amendment(s) are to be acted upon. When passed by a two-thirds (2/3)

vote of active delegates present, and voting at such stated District Convention, effective when forwarded, through channels and approved by the Commander-in-Chief.

SECTION II

Wherever these Bylaws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future Department or National Bylaws the latter shall prevail and be binding on this District as though written herein.

CERTIFICATION PAGE

Revisions and changes made and accepted at the District 1 Department of Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Convention to be held at May 14, 2022 at Brookfield, Connecticut

Jeffery Dewitt, Adjutant
District One VFW

JOHN A. KENNEDY
Commander
District 1 Department of Connecticut

Department Review:
The undersigned certifies that there are no conflicts with Department Bylaws and are hereby approved.

RONALD RUSAKIEWICZ 6-27-23
Adjutant/Quartermaster
Department of Connecticut

REVIEWED MAR 8 2024
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT GENERAL
BY _____, DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS