

**District 7**  
**Department of South Carolina**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**  
**By-Laws and Procedures**

**ARTICLE I**

Name and Location

- A. By virtue of the Charter granted, this District shall be known as District 7, Department of South Carolina, and Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- B. The Location of this District 7 shall be the mailing address of the District 7 Quartermaster South Carolina.

**ARTICLE II**

Authority

The supreme power of this association is vested in the National Convention and this District shall be at all times governed by the Congressional Charter and By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the By-Laws of the Department of South Carolina, orders issued by authority of the National Convention, National Council of Administration, the Commander-in-Chief, the Department Convention, Department Council of Administration and the Commander of the Department of South Carolina. For the purposes of this Article and Section, Resolutions adopted by the National Convention are held to be lawful orders.

**ARTICLE III**

Meetings and Conventions

- A. Regular Meeting: District shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each year for purposes of transacting business and conducting schools of instruction.
- B. Special Meeting: Special meetings will be called in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Manual of Procedure. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting except for the purpose for which the meeting was called.
- C. Committee Meetings. Meetings may be called by District Committee Chairperson, or as authorized by the District Bylaws, for the purpose of conducting the business of that committee.
- D. This District shall be governed by a District 7 Convention, as outlined in accordance with the Congressional Charter and National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. The District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District Officers and for the transaction of business; such Convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the Department

Convention. District officers shall be installed before the adjournment of the meeting at which elected. The District 7 Commander-elect shall select the installing officer. District officers shall take office upon the confirmation of election and installation of the Department Commander at the Department Convention.

#### Surrender or Forfeiture of Charter

The District may voluntarily surrender its charter only upon a vote at a District Convention conducted in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section 410 of the National By-Laws.

#### District Dues

All Posts in the District 7 shall remit annual dues to District Quartermaster no later than January 1 of each year. The dues are based on Twenty-Five cents (\$0.25) per member as of the June 30 prior membership year.

#### Arrearages

- A. The District 7 Commander will ensure that the Election Report and District 7 trustees' quarterly reports of audits are properly completed and submitted.
- B. The District 7 Commander will ensure that the quartermaster is adequately bonded and that all financial obligations have been satisfied.
- C. Infraction within this Section could result in District 7 being deprived of all representation at the Department Convention.

#### Solicitation of Funds

District 7 shall solicit funds or donations only as prescribed in Section 414 of the Manual of Procedure. The District may solicit funds or contributions or otherwise engage in fundraising activities and projects by prior vote of the District agreeing to such solicitations, activities and projects. This section shall include establishing a District Relief Fund to supplement the smaller Post's needs in District 7, and periodically adding to the District 7 Scholarship Fund.

(1) An elected Commander, Sr. Vice or Jr. Vice Officer of a Post needing financial assistance with a relief effort must contact the District 7 Quartermaster, who can decide on the merit of the request and respond with up to \$100.00 in Relief Funds.

(2) Any request over \$100.00 will require additional approval of the District Commander, or Sr. Vice or Jr. Vice, whichever is available. Total amount of any single request shall not exceed \$300.00, and all support depends on the money being available in the District Relief Fund. The District Relief Fund shall be supported as follows: Each large (200 plus members) post in District 7, shall donate \$100.00 annually to the District fund: all others shall donate \$50.00 annually, to provide funding of the District Relief Fund. These donations can be split into two equal

payments made in July and January each year. Post donations will be suspended once the District Relief Fund reaches a balance of \$2500. All donated funds should be submitted to the District QM prior to the annual district convention.

### Eligibility to Office

Any member in good standing in District 7 shall be eligible to any office in District 7; provided no member shall hold two (2) elective District 7 offices at the same time, but may hold one (1) elective and one (1) or more appointed offices. District 7 officers, elected and appointed, shall be eligible to hold office in a higher or lower body, and such offices may be held concurrently, except as provided for in Section 515 of the National By-Laws.

### Elected and Appointed Officers; Chairpersons and Committees

- A. Elected officers of District 7 shall be a Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Chaplain and three (3) trustees as provided for in Section 416 of the By-Laws.
- B. The District 7 Commander shall appoint the Adjutant and such other officers, committee chairpersons and committees as may be required by National, Department and District By-Laws. The District 7 Commander retains authority to remove officers, committee chairpersons and committees appointed by him/her at any time.
- C. District 7 officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the District 7 Adjutant. In addition, the District 7 Commander, District 7 Senior Vice Commander and District 7 Junior Vice Commander shall submit proof of eligibility to the Department Adjutant. District officers shall not assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. If an elected or appointed officer fails to submit proof of eligibility within sixty (60) days of election or appointment, any right to hold office shall be forfeited.
- D. Standing committees will be appointed by the Commander.

### Nominations and Elections

- A. The elected District 7 officers and candidates for District 7 offices shall be nominated and elected annually at the District 7 Convention.
- B. Installation of all elected and appointed officers will be at the District 7 Convention, under New Business.
- C. Any District 7 officer elected and assuming the duties of that office shall continue to hold office for the period for which elected and until the successor assumes that office unless the office is declared vacant under the provisions of Section 420 Manual of procedure.
- D. Appointed officers and appointed committee members shall hold office at the pleasure of the appointing Commander.
- E. An officer or committee member must remain in good standing in a Post within

District 7, otherwise he/she forfeits the office and the office will be vacated.

#### Officers and Chairpersons, Duties and Obligations

District 7 officers, elected and appointed, shall have such duties and obligation as prescribed in the Congressional Charter and National By-Laws, Ritual and Manual of Procedure as outlined in Section 418 of the Manual of Procedure.

#### Voting

Each member of a District 7 convention or District meeting as defined in Section 404, present at a District 7 convention or meeting shall be entitled to one vote. An individual possessing more than one qualification for membership in the District 7 convention or meeting shall have no more than one vote. District dues must have been paid for the prior and the current year to be eligible to vote. A roll call vote may be called and entered upon the record at the call of any member present.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Amendments

- A. These By-Laws shall become effective after adoption by the District 7 Convention, pending review by the Department Commander and the Commander in Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- B. These By-Laws may be amended by District 7 with a two-thirds (2/3) vote on the floor of the Convention. Members shall have been given (30) days notice in writing of the contents of such amendments.
- C. Wherever these By-Laws or subsequent amendments may be found to conflict with the present or any future Department or National By-Laws, the latter shall prevail and be binding upon this district as though written herein.

**These By-Laws were adopted, subject to review of the Department Commander and the Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States on this 25th day of April, 2020 at the District 7 Convention, Murrells Inlet (via teleconference), South Carolina**

District 7 Department of South Carolina, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

District 7 Commander \_\_\_\_\_

District 7 Adjutant \_\_\_\_\_