



July 19, 2024

Greetings,

We hope you enjoy this week's National Council Weekly Update on the pertinent happenings of your VFW departments.

Please note that the next COA Weekly will be distributed the week after the completion of the 125th VFW National Convention, resuming on Friday, Aug. 9, 2024.

Development

This week's Development Campaigns are listed below:

- July 17 Appeal:
 - o Planned Giving eNews to select recipients of Friends of Freedom.
- July 18 Appeal:
 - o Sustainer invite email #1 to all Friends of Freedom.

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

Communications and Public Affairs

• 125th VFW National Convention Events App:

For those planning on attending the 125th VFW National Convention, ensure you receive important notifications and reminders throughout the event, gain instant access to the daily agenda, and so much more with the VFW Events app. Search for the "VFW Events" in the Google Play and Apple App stores today!

Contact: VFW Communications and Public Affairs Director Randi Law, RLaw@vfw.org.

Human Resources

- Positions Actively Recruiting For:
 - o National Pre-Discharge Claims Representative Naval Base San Diego, California.

- o National Pre-Discharge Claims Representative Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.
- o Executive Director, VFW Foundation- National Headquarters K.C. Office.

Contact: VFW General Counsel John Muckelbauer, JMuckelbauer@vfw.org.

Programs

• VFW National Convention 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament is Right Around the Corner!

Don't forget to please encourage our members to register teams and participate in the 2nd annual VFW Cornhole Tournament taking place at the 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville!

The series will take place on Sunday, July 28, and Monday, July 29, 2024. All proceeds from the competition go to VFW PACT Act benefit assistance. For more information and to sign up for this event, visit https://kccrew.com/leagues/vfwcornholetournament/.

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

Membership

- Congratulations to the 2023-2024 All-Americans for "Meeting the Challenge!" Your efforts throughout this year helped strengthen the organization and bring VFW membership above 100%! Use what you learned last year to start this year strong. Remember the VFW National membership team has resources to help your achieve success, Membership@vfw.org, 888.564.6839.
- Going to the 125th VFW National Convention?! Catch the Membership seminar on Sunday, July 28, at 10:00 a.m., and the Membership Recruiting & Retention seminar later the same day at 4:00 p.m.
- The 2024-2025 VFW National Membership Program is now available online. Find next year's National Membership Program on vfw.org, at the top of the Membership Recruiting & Retention Page. **Home>MyVFW>VFW Training & Support.** The current, 2023-2024 National Membership Program will remain online until after the National Convention elections in July 2024.
- For all information on VFW Membership be sure and follow our Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/VFWmembership.

Contact: VFW Membership Interim Director Corey Hunt, CoreyHunt@vfw.org.

Meetings and Events

• Last week in the office before departing for convention on July 23.

- Payments were processed for convention caterer, entertainment patriotic celebration and closing reception.
- Last minute confirmation for internet orders with provider at convention center.
- Reviewing and making any necessary changes to VIP/awards/speakers hotel reservations at Galt House.
- Receiving new signs from printer, marking locations for sign committee, filing in trunk in preparation for loading onto truck on July 19.
- Trunks picked up and packed onto truck on July 19, headed to Louisville.
- Additional last-minute convention items as needed.

Contact: VFW Meetings and Events/Exhibits Director Vanessa Kane, CMP, CMM, VKane@vfw.org.

Administrative Operations

- There are currently 41 Posts under suspension. The organization has 5,624 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 15 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, five Administrative Removals/Actions and 10 membership eligibility challenges.
- Currently Administrative Operations has 189 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions in for review, 15 of which are new; current turnaround time on Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions is approximately 45-60 days.

Election Reports:

The deadline for submitting a completed election report for the 2024-25 term has passed.

As of July 16, 2024, the Commander-in-Chief has suspended all Posts that have failed to meet the requirements outlined in Section 218 (a) (1) (i) which states a completed Post election report must be submitted by June 1.

The Commander-in-Chief Special Orders suspending each Post for (90) days was distributed to each Post and Department and any election reports submitted after the date of the Special Order should be forwarded to the National Administrative Operations office for review prior to any suspensions being lifted.

Pursuant to Section 213 of the National Bylaws the above stated Posts are additionally placed in arrears and hereby deprived of all representation at the National Convention pending the resolution of this deficiency.

Department Proof of Eligibility:

Departments are required to submit proof of eligibility for all newly elected Junior Vice Commanders and any elected Department Quartermaster or appointed Department Adjutant who are new to their position this coming year (2024-25). Failure to do so by the National Convention may result in an Officer Position declared vacant.

Additionally, proof of eligibility for any new Department Commander or Senior Vice Commander, who for whatever reason were not in the line of succession the previous year, to which we already have proof of eligibility on file.

This proof of eligibility must be submitted to the Adjutant General pursuant to Section 516 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

This must be done <u>after</u> officers are installed and <u>prior</u> to National Convention and is most easily completed by sending documentation via email to Joseph Wolfgeher at <u>jwolfgeher@vfw.org</u>.

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

National Veterans Service

- NVS director met with VA's Medical Disability Evaluation Office (MDEO).
- VFW's NVS Pre-Discharge representatives briefed transitioning service members on VA benefits at military installations around the country.
- NVS health leadership participated in a VA/DOD Suicide Prevention conference.
- NVS BDD leadership participated in a VA/DOD/DOL TAP summit.
- NVS health team attended the public session of the advisory committee for former POWs.

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

