

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY UPDATE



Aug. 16, 2024

Greetings,

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

From the Office of the Adjutant General

I wanted to express my gratitude for your vote of confidence in serving as the Adjutant General for the VFW under the leadership of Chief Al Liphardt for the 2024-2025 year. I am truly honored to serve in this capacity for another year. Please know that your National Headquarters staff are here to help every member and every Post be as successful as they want to be.

Our second and more in-depth National Council Meeting will take place Sept. 4-8, 2024, in Kansas City at the KC Airport Marriot hotel located on the airport grounds. This will consist of Council training for new members, Budget and Finance Committee meeting, Council member workshop on various topics followed by the formal Council meeting on Saturday morning. I will send you an email with more detailed information at a later date.

Dan West
Adjutant General

Human Resources

- Positions Actively Recruiting For:
 - National Pre-Discharge Claims Representative – Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.

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

Legal

- In follow up to our publications in the COA Weekly and National Headquarters Bulletin in January, we will be sending additional guidance to Departments on the Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting rule under the Corporate Transparency Act.

In summary, Posts, Districts and Departments who are a 501(c) [including 501(c)(19), 501(c)(3), and 501(c)(4)] and who are currently exempt with the IRS do not have to report to the FinCEN. Also, Posts, Districts and Departments who are a 501(c) and have lost their

exemption in the last 180 days do not have to report to the FinCEN. If a Post, District or Department has lost their exemption more than 180 days ago, they must file with the FinCEN, as must any entity not organized under 501(c).

Click here for more information: <https://www.fincen.gov/boi-faqs>.

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

Membership

- The Membership team continues to work to get all post-convention All-American Post citations, streamers and packets not picked up at convention out to Departments through the end of August.
- The last batch of awards for the 2023-2024 membership year will be going out this week.
- The 2024-2025 VFW National Membership Program is now available online. Find this year's National Membership Program on vfw.org, at the top of the Membership Recruiting & Retention Page. **Home>MyVFW>VFW Training & Support**.
- Find us on Facebook for more [VFW Membership](#) information.

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

Meetings and Events

- Reviewing and processing convention related invoices.
- Working with Taylor to do the final hand-off before I leave – 8.30.24.

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

Administrative Operations:

- There are currently 88 Posts under suspension, 50 of which are CIC suspensions due to no election report. The organization has 5,619 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 17 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, three Administrative Removals/Actions and 11 membership eligibility challenges.
- Currently Administrative Operations has 206 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions in for review, 11 of which are new.

Department Inspections

- As the 2024-2025 term is getting started, the following 10 Departments have been identified and are tentatively scheduled for inspections. We are currently working on availability, scheduling and logistics with hopes that the first inspection will take place in early October

2024. Special orders will be sent to each Department with instructions on the next steps once they have been officially scheduled. Departments that have been identified for inspections are as follows:

- Western Conference:
 - Pacific Areas
 - Utah
 - Washington
- Eastern Conference:
 - Europe
 - Delaware
- Southern Conference:
 - Mississippi
 - Oklahoma
- Big 10 Conference:
 - Michigan
 - South Dakota
 - Iowa

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Quentin Carroll at QCarroll@vfw.org.

2023-2024 End of Year Roll Up:

- Administrative Operations processed 262 total Post suspensions of which 155 were CIC suspensions due to no election reports for the 2023-24 & 2024-25 terms. There were 36 Post consolidations, 91 cancellation of Charters, and 13 new Posts processed and completed. Additionally, we issued 113 VFW Charters and 115 Auxiliary Charters for various reasons to include replacements, Post name or location changes, and Post consolidations.
- A total of 10 Department Inspections were scheduled and completed by the National Inspection team.
- A total of 107 Article IX Disciplinary Actions adjudicated: 63 officer removals, 22 - 518 letters, 87 eligibility challenges of which 73 were terminated due to ineligibility, four were found eligible, 48 voluntary resignations, 26 voluntary surrenders, and 13 reinstatements.
- 759 Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation have been received for review and approval during the 2023-2024 term.

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

VFW Foundation

- The VFW Foundation made an important contribution to the recent 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Not only did the Foundation raise an impressive \$500,000+ in corporate support, but we also cultivated sponsors for numerous on-site events and luncheons. Staff in attendance were Interim Director Brian Walker, Independent Contractor Tony Lowe, Director of Donor Relations Richard Freiburghouse, Grants Manager Christopher Johnson, and Donation Specialist Renee Martin. We were also joined at our booth by the VFW Foundation Board Chair Mike DeRosa.

National Legislative Service

- **Applications Now Being Accepted for 2024-2025 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship:** The application process for the 2024-2025 class of VFW-SVA Legislative Fellows is now open. VFW members who attend an accredited institute of higher learning will be chosen for the semester-long program that focuses on real policy issues faced by veterans, service members and their families. The capstone of the program is participation in the 2025 VFW Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. Alumni of the program have become more active at all levels of the VFW and SVA, and have been instrumental in changing laws to improve care and benefits for veterans. [Learn more](#) and [apply for the fellowship](#).
- **VA Redesigns Burn Pit Registry:** VA has released a Redesigned Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry, called AHOBPR 2.0, to better identify and investigate adverse health conditions typically attributed to airborne hazards and burn pits exposure. New features include broader participation criteria, clear opt-out procedures, and automatic registration based on DOD records. While enrollment in AHOBPR 2.0 does not influence a veteran's health care or benefits, the data collected will help VA develop more advanced treatments, use more precise predictive medicine, make better informed decisions pertaining to presumptive conditions, and deliver targeted proactive and preventive care. [Read more](#) about the registry and [toxic exposures](#). Locate an [accredited representative](#) for help filing a related claim.
- **Apply Now for New VA Graduate Medical Education Program:** VA has launched an online portal for applications to a new pilot program through which it will reimburse salaries and benefits for at least 100 physician residents who rotate to covered health care facilities. For nearly 80 years, VA has impacted the next generation of health professionals with almost 70% of U.S. physicians having trained at VA. "This program will place physician residents where they are needed most, in rural and underserved communities across America. For veterans, this program will make it easier to access the health care they need and deserve," said VA Chief Academic Affiliations Officer Marjorie Bowman, M.D. [Learn more](#) about this new initiative and apply by Sept. 30, 2024.
- **Participate in VA Million Veteran Program and Improve Care for All:** When veterans maintain positive relationships, stay physically active, and manage stress, it benefits their overall health. By joining VA's [Million Veteran Program](#), you can help researchers better understand veterans' physical and mental health. [Learn more](#) about the research findings and join today.

Contact: VFW National Legislative Service Director Patrick Murray, PMurray@vfw.org.

National Veterans Service

- Washington Office and NVS leaders met with VBA to discuss development of VA's new VSAFE program (fraud and claim sharks).
- NVS BDD reps briefed transitioning service members on VA benefits at military installations across the country.

- NVS leadership met with VA concerning protecting veterans from predatory claims practices.
- NVS leadership met with the VBA Medical Disability Exam Office leadership.
- NVS health team attended the VA mobile crisis response symposium.
- NVS health team attended the VA Toxic exposure screening meeting.
- NVS leadership attended the VA's Medical Disability Exam VSO quarterly briefing.
- NVS health team attended a VAVS discussion with VFW Auxiliary.

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

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