

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY UPDATE



October 15, 2021

Greetings,

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

## **Development**

- Oct. 11 Appeal:
  - o October acquisition double socks and card package.
- Oct. 13 Appeal:
  - o Thank you eCard for Navy birthday to Friends of Freedom identified as Navy veteran or active duty military.
- Oct. 14 Appeal:
  - o Veterans Day Sign A Card email #2 to all Friends of Freedom.
- Oct. 15 Appeal:
  - o Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship email to all Friends of Freedom.

Contact: VFW Development Manager Kelly Jones, [KellyJones@vfw.org](mailto:KellyJones@vfw.org).

## **Human Resources**

- New Employee:
  - o Kelcy Daniels is a new Shipping and Receiving Clerk in the K.C. warehouse.

Contact: VFW Human Resources Manager Danielle Owen, [DOwen@vfw.org](mailto:DOwen@vfw.org).

## **Communications**

- The C&PA director traveled to Kansas City, Missouri, to join fellow directors and other VFW national staff in attending the Junior Vice Commanders and Adjutant/Quartermasters Conference. The C&PA director teamed up with the C&PA manager in presenting a communication briefing to the newest Department leaders in attendance.
- The C&PA director interviewed three veterans of the Global War on Terror for upcoming podcasts, one focusing on the 20th anniversary of the Afghanistan Campaign and the other for a Veterans Day special featuring Medal of Honor Recipient David Bellavia.
- The C&PA director continued to coordinate for guest interviews for future episodes of the podcast.
- The C&PA director continued coordination for fall conferences.

Contact: VFW Communications and Public Affairs Director Rob Couture, [RCouture@vfw.org](mailto:RCouture@vfw.org).

### **Administrative Operations**

- There are currently 36 Posts under suspension, one of which is new. We are currently working two and completed two Post Consolidations pursuant to Section 209 of the National Bylaws; we are currently working four and have completed two charter surrenders pursuant to Section 210 of the National Bylaws; we are currently working five and completed one charter revocation pursuant to Section 212 of the National Bylaws. The organization has 5,941 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 18 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, one of which is pending a disciplinary hearing; three administrative actions; and four membership eligibility challenges.
- Administrative Operations has processed, approved, and distributed 14 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation this week. We have received six new Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions and currently have six total pending review and approval. Current turnaround time on Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions is approximately 14 days.

Contact: VFW Administrative Operations Director Johnathan Duncan, [JDuncan@vfw.org](mailto:JDuncan@vfw.org).

### **Meetings and Events**

- Completed the 2021 Junior Vice Commanders/New Adjutant/Quartermasters meeting at KCI Airport Marriott Hotel.
- A letter of appreciation was sent to KCI Airport Marriott General Manager Jim Wynn for their recent hospitality for the meeting.
- Received final hotel contract for 2022 National Convention – Loews Kansas City, which is ready for signatures. Last contract that was outstanding. All are now completed.

- Receiving proposals back from lead placed for the May 2022 NVS OPT training location. Compiling a document to provide information to D.C. office for their input and decision on location.
- Inquiry to Hyatt Regency Crystal City for updated housing link in preparation for inclusion in letters to go out for Legislative Conference, Feb. 26 to March 3, 2022. Housing targeted to open Nov. 7, 2021 for that conference.
- Confirming various activities for K.C. Spree group – May 2022, tours etc., for group while they are here in Kansas City.
- Received a list of the 123rd National Convention chairmen for each committee from National Convention Chairman Jim Mueller. Looking to schedule first local committee meeting for late October or early November to review duties and responsibilities for each chairman/committee.
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Contact: VFW Meetings and Events/Exhibits Manager Vanessa Kane, CMP, CMM, [VKane@vfw.org](mailto:VKane@vfw.org).

### **National Legislative Service**

- VFW National Legislative Director Pat Murray testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Technology and Modernization regarding pending legislation. Murray testified on important IT funding and transparency-related bills and expressed support for a draft bill to collect demographic data on users of VA benefits. He stated, "Having a better understanding of the veteran population utilizing VA care and benefits will help better inform how and where to direct resources." The VFW is grateful for the subcommittee's attention to these issues and hopes these bills will quickly advance and become law. [Read the testimony](#).
- The VFW currently [supports 106 bills; and opposes one bill](#) pending before the 117th Congress.

Contact: VFW National Legislative Service Director Patrick Murray, [PMurray@vfw.org](mailto:PMurray@vfw.org).

### **National Veterans Service**

- NVS Deputy Director Mike Figlioli attended the Junior Vice Commanders Conference last weekend to brief on the mission of NVS, the role of Department Service Officers, and to talk about fiscal year 21-22 as "The Year of the Represented Veteran" as a way to better inform veterans of their right to competent representation as a way to combat predatory claim sharks.
- NVS continues to press VA for clarity on vaccination status for service officers who utilize VA facilities to assist claimants. The VFW understands that VFW-accredited service officers may be subject to the recent presidential executive orders, but the orders

have seemingly left VA scrambling to figure out the scope of the orders and ways to work with affiliated service providers like VSOs who utilize federal resources.

- NVS participated in several meetings with VHA to include biweekly updates on the Project ATLAS telehealth program and VA's dental care outreach.
- NVS VFW Pre-Discharge Claims Representatives briefed Army Reserve Survivor Outreach Support coordinators about benefits assistance and conducted a benefits briefing for transitioning service members at the U.S. Naval Academy.

Contact: VFW National Veterans Service Director Ryan Gallucci, [RGallucci@vfw.org](mailto:RGallucci@vfw.org).

