

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY UPDATE



April 21, 2023

Greetings,

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

## **Development**

This week's Development campaigns are listed below:

- April 20 Appeal:
  - o Dormant reengagement email #3 to all Friends of Freedom.
- April 22 Appeals:
  - o Memorial Day campaign with labels and nickels to nonmember donors.
  - o Memorial Day campaign with coasters and check to member donors.

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

## **Human Resources**

- Promotions:
  - o Corey Hunt has been promoted to Deputy Director in the Membership Department in the Kansas City Office.
  - o Matthew Nute has been promoted to Associate Director in the Membership Department in the Kansas City Office.
- Positions Actively Recruiting For:
  - o Shipping Receiving Clerk (PT and FT) – K.C.
  - o Member Services Advisor – K.C.
  - o Administrative Support Assistant, VFW Store – K.C.
  - o Associate Director, DAMA – D.C.

- o Associate Director, Grassroots Advocacy – D.C.
- o Major Gifts Officer – D.C.

Contact: VFW Human Resources Director Sari Maple, [SMaple@vfw.org](mailto:SMaple@vfw.org).

### **Administrative Operations**

- There are currently 34 Posts under suspension; four of which are new with two suspensions lifted since last week. We are working to institute two new Posts, and we have completed one Post consolidation pursuant to Sections 201 and 209 of the National Bylaws. The organization has 5,744 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 25 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, 15 administrative actions and five membership eligibility challenges.
- Our new completely digital process for reviewing bylaws and articles of incorporation at all levels is working well; however, we are making our way through a backlog of 70 bylaws and articles. Our estimated time to complete this backlog is two weeks. At that time, we'll be back to normal turnaround times. In the meantime, we thank you for your patience.
- We are processing election reports as quickly as we receive them. This is a reminder that the quickest and easiest way to submit election reports is by utilizing the Quartermaster's tools within the Online Membership System (OMS). Additionally, any Post that has not submitted an election report by June 1 is in arrears; will be prevented from voting at their respective Department convention; and will be subject to suspension.

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

### **Membership**

- Membership is preparing for an interactive week with the Sr. Vice and Adjutants for this year's training conference in Kansas City, April 20-22. The focus will be the 2023-24 Membership program to outline next year's goals for membership growth, incentives for retaining and recruiting members and all base-line requirements for next year's All-American program.
- Fifteen Departments have crossed the 100% goal this year. New membership is up 10% over this time last year. Keep the recruiting push ON!
- Gearing up for another monthly episode of Membership Monday on May 10, at 10:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. CST. If you have a topic for training, we would love to hear from you! Contact us by emailing, [Membership@vfw.org](mailto:Membership@vfw.org) and be sure to follow our [Facebook page](#).

Contact: VFW Membership Director Rick Butler, [RButler@vfw.org](mailto:RButler@vfw.org).

### **Meetings and Events**

- Phoenix Convention Housing - 4/10/23 – We have had an overwhelming response to the convention housing for Phoenix. A memo was sent to VFW Departments on 4/10/23 regarding housing and the current waitlisted situation. 4/18/23 all remaining rooms in state blocks will be placed into one main block from which waitlisted rooms will be cleared. No new reservations will be taken until the waitlisted reservations are cleared. VFW National is under contract with the current VFW hotels, therefore it is our goal to utilize all rooms contracted in each of the hotels to avoid any penalties for not filling the contracted blocks. In the event a hotel or hotels sell out completely, we will make every attempt, based on availability, to secure additional rooms at that hotel. If there are no additional rooms available to us, we will continue to fill up the other official VFW hotels to satisfy our contractual obligations before we move forward to secure additional rooms (overflow) at other nearby hotels. If this occurs beyond the cutoff date of June 21, 2023, a determination will be made if VFW National is in a position to contract for overflow rooms and be obligated should those contracted overflow rooms not be utilized.
- 4/17/23 – received the final invoice from the March VFW Legislative Conference from the hotel. Reviewing and coding the bill to get to accounting for payment.
- **Note: 4/15/23 was the deadline for exhibitors to get their completed paperwork to me to secure their exhibit space.** Currently processing those applications. Will continue to take and process applications until May 10 based on the available space. The week of 4/27 I will follow-up with those exhibitors who have yet to respond (many who have exhibited in the past), however, have not yet confirmed, to determine if they are attending or not. Based on the final list of exhibitors, I will work with FERN/Expo to design the 2023 floorplan and do booth assignments. FERN/Expo will then send out the service kits 6/15 to the exhibitors.

Contact: VFW Meetings and Events/Exhibits Director Vanessa Kane, CMP, CMM,  
[VKane@vfw.org](mailto:VKane@vfw.org).

### **VFW Foundation**

- Due to scheduling conflicts with the Burger King Foundation, the Burger King/VFW Unmet Needs fundraising campaign will be conducted in May of this year. We continue to recruit BK franchisees across the U.S. to help raise much needed funding for the Unmet Needs program which provides financial aid grants to veterans, service members, and their families that are experiencing unexpected financial difficulties. A list of participating Burger King restaurants will be available beginning the week of April 17.

If you have any questions, please contact VFW Foundation Assistant Director Ben Vargas,  
[BVargas@vfw.org](mailto:BVargas@vfw.org).

Contact: VFW Foundation Director of Donor Relations Richard Freiburghouse,  
[RFreiburghouse@vfw.org](mailto:RFreiburghouse@vfw.org).

### **National Legislative Service**

- VA announced the opening of two buildings that will provide 120 units of permanent supportive housing for homeless and at-risk veterans and their families at the VA West Los Angeles campus. The campus now has a total of 233 supportive housing units available. VA has set a goal to provide at least 1,500 permanent housing placements to veterans in the

Greater Los Angeles area in 2023. Nationwide, VA permanently housed 40,401 homeless veterans in 2022. If you know a veteran who is homeless or at risk of homelessness and in need of VA services, call the West LA VA Welcome Center at 310.268.3269. [Read more.](#) Veterans in crisis should call 1.800.273.8255 and press 1.

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

### **National Veterans Service**

- We conducted Accredited Service Officer proficiency training this week in Annapolis, Maryland.
- NVS leadership attended a Compact Act seminar about free services for those experiencing mental health crisis, treatment, and billing issues.
- NVS contacted VA on the mandatory Separation Health Assessments (SHA) for separating service members that went into effect on April 1, 2023, and provided updated guidance to our accredited service officer.
- VFW's NVS Pre-Discharge representatives briefing Camp Pendleton Spouse Transition course.
- VFW's NVS Pre-Discharge representatives participating in the Army GO Transition course.

Contact: VFW National Veterans Service Director Michael Figlioli, [MFiglioli@vfw.org](mailto:MFiglioli@vfw.org).

