

August 5, 2022

Greetings,

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

Administrative Operations

- There are currently 80 Posts under suspension; 19 of which are new with two suspensions extended and nine lifted since last week. Additionally, many Departments have established administrative committees for Posts placed on Commander-in-Chief suspension to assist the Post with other deficiencies found. We have one pending and have completed one Post consolidation; we have one pending and have completed one Post charter surrender; and we have four pending Post charter revocations pursuant to Sections 209, 210, and 212 of the National Bylaws. The organization has 5,844 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 20 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, 11 administrative actions and six membership eligibility challenges.
- We have 11 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions in for review, four of which are new. Current turnaround time on Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions is approximately one week.

Contact: VFW Administrative Operations Director Johnathan Duncan, JDuncan@vfw.org.

Development

- Aug. 2 Appeal:
 - o August eNews to all nonmember Friends of Freedom.
- Aug. 4 Appeal:
 - o Thank you eCard to Friends of Freedom identified as Coast Guard veteran and active military.

Contact: VFW Development Director Kelly Jones, KellyJones@vfw.org.

Communications

- Communications and Public Affairs Director Rob Couture drafted and disseminated three press releases on behalf of the organization, July 28 – [VFW Expresses Outrage Over Senators Failing to Advance PACT Act](#); Aug. 2 – [VFW Commemorates Hard Fought Win as Senate Finally Passes ‘PACT Act’](#); and Aug. 4 – [Happy Birthday US Coast Guard!](#).
- Director Couture collaborated with NLS directors in developing, producing and sharing *PACT Act* content on the VFW National social media platforms and VFW Washington Office Twitter account, https://twitter.com/VFW_OfficeDC. Short video featuring FAQs about the bill reached more than 17,000 people on Facebook and garnered more than 1.1 million views on Twitter. The VFW Washington Officer Twitter account gained almost 300 new followers during the six-day period between Senate *PACT Act* votes.
- Director Couture travels to Sturgis, South Dakota, Aug. 8 - 13, to support and cover Commander-in-Chief Tim Borland’s engagements and recruiting efforts at the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally.
- Director Couture continued to coordinate for guest interviews for future episodes of the podcast.

Contact: VFW Communications and Public Affairs Director Rob Couture, RCouture@vfw.org.

National Legislative Service

- Students receiving Post-9/11 GI Bill housing payments are now required to verify enrollment to VA by the end of each month. Students may choose text message verification to ensure seamless receipt of their Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA) payments. [Learn more](#) about the enrollment verification process.
- The VFW currently [supports 177 bills; and opposes one bill](#) pending before the 117th Congress.

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

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