

July 21, 2021

Reece Carter, District Commander
District 14, Department of Texas, VFW
101 Tanner Ct S.
Burnet, TX 78611-5849

Re: Proposed Amended Bylaws

Dear Comrade Carter:

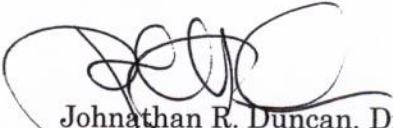
Receipt is acknowledged of the proposed revised Bylaws for District No. 14, Department of Texas, VFW submitted through channels for the review of the Commander-in-Chief in accordance with Section 402 of the Manual of Procedure.

These documents have been designated amended Bylaws to reflect their replacement of previously reviewed Bylaws.

A review of the proposed amended Bylaws discloses that they were in substantial compliance with the Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual, and laws and usages of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; however have been modified for compliance. To preclude any misunderstanding of the additions and/or deletions, an informal document has been attached.

A copy of the reviewed amended Bylaws, with the corrections noted thereon, has been retained for our files, another forwarded to your Department Headquarters, and two sets herewith returned.

Sincerely,



Johnathan R. Duncan, Director
Administrative Operations

JRD: cl

Enc: Revised Bylaws (2)

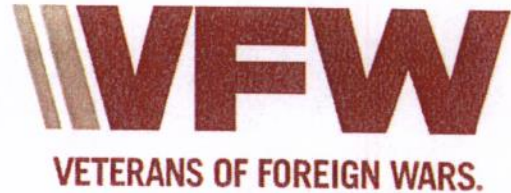
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Kansas City, MO 64111 Fax 816.968.1157

WASHINGTON OFFICE

200 Maryland Ave., N.E. Office 202.543.2239
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June 6, 2021

Harold J. "Hal" Roesch, II
Commander-in-Chief
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
406 West 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Chief:

Enclosed are the proposed By-Laws for VFW District 14, Department of Texas, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, which have been approved by the membership and are being sent to you for review in accordance with the National By-Laws.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan West". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and last name "West" clearly legible.

DAN WEST
State Adjutant/Quartermaster



DW: wdl
Enclosure

Veterans of Foreign Wars

JUN 25 2021

Administrative Operations-GM

VFW DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

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NATIONAL BYLAWS/MANUAL OF PROCEDURE CONFLICT

DISTRICT 14 TEXAS

Article IV Section 2, Article XVII Section 2

Add "and voting"

Reason: A member may abstain their vote and decline to vote either for or against a motion or proposal.

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Department of Texas
District 14 Bylaws

PREAMBLE

Respectfully invoking the blessings of the Creator and the ratification of the entity of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and seeking the consent of all men and women who dedicate their persons and consciences to the ideals of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, a majority of the members of District 14 duly assembled hereby declare and adopt the following as its Bylaws:

ARTICLE I

SUBORDINATION

Sec. 1. The supreme power of this association is vested in the National Convention and this District shall be at all times governed by the Congressional Charter and Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Bylaws of the Department of Texas, orders issued by authority of the National Convention, National Council of Administration, the Commander-in-Chief, the Department Convention, Department Council of Administration and the Commander of the Department of Texas. Resolutions adopted by the National Convention are held to be lawful orders.

ARTICLE II

COMPOSITION

Sec. 1. The District Convention and District meetings shall consist of:

1. The Commander-in-Chief and Past Commanders-in-Chief who are members in good standing in a Post in the District.
2. The National Council of Administration member who is in good standing in a Post in the District.
3. The Department Commander and Past Department Commanders who are members in good standing in a Post in the District.
4. The District Commander, all Past District Commanders who are members in good standing in a Post in the District, all elected officers of the District and the Adjutant.
5. All Post Commanders throughout the District. In the absence of the Post Commander, the Post Senior Vice Commander, or, in their absence the Post Junior Vice Commander may function as a member of the Convention or meetings in accordance with Section 404 of the National Bylaws.

6. Delegates to be elected by the Posts.

ARTICLE III

CONVENTIONS

- Sec. 1. District 14 shall hold an annual District 14 Convention for the purpose of electing District Officers and for the transaction of business, and such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department of Texas Convention in accordance with Section 403 of the National Bylaws.
- Sec. 2. The District 14 Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander and Quartermaster will be paid a stipend of four hundred dollars \$400.00 for Mid-Winter Roundup at the Department Convention to assist them defraying the costs of these events. These monies are not transferable and in an event of a "no-show" will be immediately reimbursed to the District 14 Quartermaster.

ARTICLE IV

REGULAR & SPECIAL MEETINGS

- Sec. 1. In addition to the annual District 14 Convention, District 14 shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each year. One (1) of which shall be for promoting schools of instruction for Post Officers & for the discussion of problems affecting the welfare of members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and other matters as may be appropriate to the purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in accordance with Section 403 of the National Bylaws.
- Sec. 2. The District Commander shall call a special meeting upon a vote of a majority of the District members present *and voting* at a Convention or regular meeting or upon receipt of a written petition signed by at least one (1) delegate each from 50% of the Posts in the District. The District Commander may call a special meeting whenever in higher judgment, as it appears to be for the best interests of the members within the jurisdiction of the District in accordance with Section 403 of the National Bylaws.
- Sec. 3. In the event a special meeting is called, the District Adjutant shall give notice, in writing, to the Post Commanders within the District and District Officers of the time and place of any special meeting and of the business to be transacted, such notice to be given in such manner as to reasonably reach each Post Commander, District Officer and Department Commander at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the time set for the meeting. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting except that for which the meeting was called.

Sec. 4. Meetings Held Electronically: Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, regular and special meetings of committees may be held entirely or partially by use of video conferencing or electronic transmissions (i.e., Zoom, Skype or other platforms) that identify those participating, those seeking recognition to speak, and showing the results of the votes, so long as all participants can communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. A person participating in a meeting by such means is deemed to be present at the meeting and counted for purposes of establishing a quorum and voting in order to transact business of the organization. These electronic meetings shall be subject to all rules adopted by National, and Department of Texas Bylaws, to govern them, which may include any reasonable limitations on, and requirements for, members' participation. Any such rules adopted by the District 14 shall supersede any conflicting rules in the parliamentary authority but may not otherwise conflict with or alter any rule or decision of the National or Department Bylaws.

ARTICLE V

QUORUM

Sec. 1. The minimum number of delegates required to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a District Convention or at a regular or special meeting shall not be less than one delegate each from fifty (50) percent of the Posts in the District. For the purpose of this Section, a Post Commander shall be considered a delegate.

ARTICLE VI

DUES

Sec. 1. All Posts in the District shall remit annual dues to the District Quartermaster no later than 31 December.

Sec. 2. Delegates assembled at the District Convention may assess annual dues not to exceed one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per member based on the total number of memberships reported the previous year. As resolved in the September 2018 District 14 meeting, an additional donation of twenty-five cents (\$.25) up to one dollar (\$1.00) per member is requested to eliminate the need for excessive fundraising activities.

ARTICLE VII

DELEGATES

Sec. 1. Delegates to District 14 meetings and Conventions shall be elected in accordance with Section 222 of the National Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII

FUNDRAISING/PROMOTION/SOLICITATION

Sec. 1. District 14 may solicit funds or contributions or otherwise engage in fundraising activities and projects by prior vote of the District agreeing to such solicitations, activities and projects in accordance with Section 414 of the National Bylaws.

ARTICLE IX

ELIGIBILITY TO OFFICE

Sec. 1. Any member in good standing in a Post in this District shall be eligible to any office in this District; provided, no member shall hold two (2) elected District 14 offices at the same time, but may hold one (1) elected and one (1) or more appointed offices in accordance with Section 416 of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 2. District 14 officers, elected or appointed, shall be eligible to hold office in a higher or lower body, and such offices may be held concurrently, except as provided for in Section 515 of the National Bylaws.

ARTICLE X

DISTRICT OFFICERS

Sec. 1. The elected officers of District 14 shall be the Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Chaplain and three (3) Trustees in accordance with Section 416 of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 2. The District Commander shall appoint the Adjutant, Officer of the Day, Chief of Staff, Inspector, Service Officer and other officers as deemed appropriate to properly conduct the affairs of the District in accordance with Section 416 of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 3. District 14 officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility to the District Adjutant and shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility has been submitted and properly reviewed. Such proof of eligibility shall be open to and reviewed by the District Commander, Adjutant and Quartermaster prior to installation to office.

Sec. 4. In the event an elected or appointed officer fails to submit proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days of election or appointment, any right of the officer to hold office shall be forfeited and the office declared vacant.

Sec. 5. Upon being duly sworn in at the District 14 Convention, the District 14 Quartermaster will order an appropriately sized VFW hat for all incoming District 14 elected officers from District 14 funds.

ARTICLE XI

NOMINATION, ELECTION, INSTALLATION & TERM OF OFFICE

Sec. 1. District 14 officers shall be nominated, elected and installed at the District Convention in the manner prescribed in accordance with Section 417 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

ARTICLE XII

OFFICERS DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

Sec. 1. The officers of District 14, elected and appointed, shall have such duties and obligations as prescribed in the Department of Texas Bylaws and Section 418 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

Sec. 2. Each Post within District 14 is required to attend all official District meetings or called special meetings. Either the Post Commander or his/her designated representative will represent their Post. If a Post Commander or his/her designated representative fail to attend a District 14 meeting, regular or special, the District Commander may recommend to the State Commander that the Post Commander be relieved under the provisions of Section 218 (a) (1) k of the Manual of Procedure.

ARTICLE XIII

PAST OFFICERS

Sec. 1. A Past Officer is one who has been elected and installed, appointed or succeeds to a vacancy in a District office and (1) has served to the end of their term; (2) died before the expiration of their term; (3) ceased to hold office by reason of a consolidation of units; or (4) resigned to enter active military service or, while in active military, resigns office due to receipt of permanent change of station orders.

ARTICLE XIV

VACANCIES AND REMOVAL OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Sec. 1. District 14 shall remove elected officers and fill vacancies in accordance with Section 420 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure.

ARTICLE XV

VOTING

Sec. 1. District 14 voting will be in accordance with Section 421 of the National Bylaws.

Sec. 2. The District 14 Commander may initiate an electronic vote via email in the case of an emergency for the expenditure of District Funds. The emergency must have been initiated by National or Department of Texas. The emergency must pertain to Hurricane, Tornado, Flooding, Fire, or Health related emergencies. The request for expenditure of funds must be emailed to all District Officers, all Post Commanders, and all Past District Commanders and requires a 2/3 approval. The amount of the expenditure must be verified by the Quartermaster. The expenditure of funds must be ratified at the next stated District Meeting.

ARTICLE XVI

STANDING FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

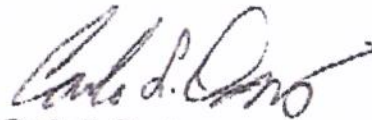
- Sec. 1. The District Commander and Quartermaster are not authorized to pay accommodations for National or Department Veterans of Foreign Wars representatives who are otherwise reimbursed by the National or Department of Texas Headquarters. Token gifts may be purchased whose price will not exceed the authorization outlined in Section 2 of this article.
- Sec. 2. The District Commander, subject to availability of funds as reported by the Quartermaster is authorized to expend no more than one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00) per month for contingencies which may arise between District 14 meetings or conventions. Monthly authorizations are not cumulative.
- Sec. 3. Outgoing District Commanders Award, subject to availability of funds as reported by the District Quartermaster is authorized to spend no more than four hundred dollars (\$400.00) at the end of the VFW year for a Bronze Legacy or upgrade to a Silver or Gold Legacy or spend no more than four hundred dollars (\$400.00) for an outgoing gift. The choice of which award to purchase is put to the floor by a motion and voted on. Past District Commanders are not subject to a Legacy award purchase by the District.
- Sec. 4. All normal or daily expenditures for the new VFW Year i.e., Bonding of Commander, Quartermaster and Assistant Quartermaster, Office Supplies, Military Assistance Program (MAP) — State Level, Service Officer, Texas VFW Foundation, National Home for Children, Buddy Poppy, Texas House Donation, Patriot's Pen, Voice of Democracy, Citizenship, Teacher of the Year and other miscellaneous items that doesn't cost more than a one hundred & fifty dollars (\$150.00) per request will be paid by the Quartermaster. In case of a national disaster, plague or virus that affects the State of Texas or this country that can impact on the District funds will be reviewed by line by line items for payment by the Quartermaster or Assistant Quartermaster and Commander to ensure funds are available.
- Sec. 5. All other expenses must be voted upon at a regularly held District 14 meeting or convention; or a special meeting if so deemed by the District Commander.

ARTICLE XVII

BYLAWS

- Sec. 1. These Bylaws shall become effective after adoption by the District Convention and reviewed by the Department Commander and the Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- Sec. 2. These Bylaws may only be amended or altered at a District Convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present *and voting* at a meeting thereof; provided that such amendments have been forwarded through proper channels and written notice thereof, together with a copy of the proposed amendments being given to the District Commander and Adjutant for proper notice to all concerned at least four (4) weeks prior to the convening of the District Convention.
- Sec. 3. Wherever these Bylaws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future Department or National Bylaws the latter shall prevail and be binding on this District as though written herein.

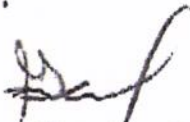
These Bylaws were adopted, subject to the review of the Department Commander and the Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States on this 16th day of April 2021 at the District 14 Convention in the City of Temple and County of Bell, State of Texas.



Carlo S. Davis
District Commander

OFFICIAL

BY:




Gary Land
District Adjutant



REVIEWED BY
DEPARTMENT COMMANDER



REVIEWED **MAR 21 2021**
FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF



BY JOHNATHAN R. DUNCAN, DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS