

Article 5 - Qualifications

Section 1: Any person, who is a member in good standing of this Chapter, shall be eligible to any elective or appointed office of this Chapter, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 2: A member may **NOT** simultaneously hold any (2) two elected positions, however may hold an elected position and appointed position simultaneously.

Section 3: An exception to section 2 is neither the Commander nor any Vice Commander may serve as Adjutant or Treasurer.

Article 6 - Elections

Section 1: An election committee of at least (3) three members of this Chapter, shall be voted into office, by the April meeting of each year.

Para 1: At the annual May meeting, the election Committee shall ask for nominations to the officers positions that are annually voted upon. All nominees **MUST** accept the nomination in order to be placed on the ballot.

Para 2: There shall be no limit to the number of nominees for each position to be elected.

Section 2: At the regularly scheduled Chapter meeting in June, the election of Officers shall be held.

Para 1: The election of Officers shall be done by secret ballot, containing the names of ALL nominees.

Para 2: The secret ballot will have a write in space, next to EACH position, to write in the name of the members vote from that of the nominees. The ballot will then be placed in the vote container and later counted. The nominee with the most votes will be considered the winner for that position.

Para 3: There shall be **NO VOTING BY PROXY OR MAIL. ALL voting must be by members present.**

Section 3: Elected and appointed Officers shall be installed prior to the Department Convention each year. They shall serve for (1) one year or until newly elected or appointed officers have been installed.

Para 1: A Chapter officers report shall be submitted to the State Department and National Organization within ten (10) days after the installation of newly elected or appointed Chapter officers or in the event of any subsequent change in the Chapter officers during the membership year.

Section 4: Upon election or appointment, and installation of the successor to any such Chapter office, all Chapter property, in his or her predecessor's possession shall be surrendered to the newly installed officer.

Article 7 - Duties of Officers

Section 1: The assigned official duties of each elected and appointed position for this Chapter are at a minimum those duties of the same title, as outlined in both the Department and National By-Laws. In addition, but not limited to, the following positions and duties are assigned:

Para 1: Commander: The Commander shall be the Chief Executive Officer of this chapter. He/she shall be the presiding officer and in his/her absence the duty will fall to the next highest officer in the line of succession that is present.

Para 2: Sr. Vice-Commander: **SEE ADDENDUM "A" FOR DUTIES OF ALL OFFICERS**

Para 3: Adjutant

Para 4: 1st. Junior Vice-Commander:

Para 5: 2nd. Junior Vice-Commander:

Para 6: Judge Advocate:

Para 7: Treasurer:

Para 8: Chaplain:

Article 8 - Tenure of Office

Section 1: All elected and appointed officers of this Chapter shall serve for a term of (1) one year or until a newly elected or appointed officer has been installed.

Para 1: Unexcused absence of any officer for **three (3) consecutive meetings** shall be cause for removal from office with the approval of the Executive Board and a majority vote by the Chapter members present and voting at a general membership meeting, and the Commander is empowered to appoint a Chapter member to serve the unexpired term, subject to the approval of the Chapter members present.

Section 2: In the event the office of Commander is vacated for any reason, the Senior Vice Commander shall be elevated to fill the Commanders position and the 1st. Junior Vice Commander is elevated to fill the Senior Vice Commanders position, (this goes on until the last Junior Vice Commander's position is vacant and the new Commander is elected).

Para 1: The succession of command for this Chapter stops at the last filled position of Junior Vice Commander. (Commander, Senior Vice Commander, 1st. Junior Vice Commander and 2nd. Junior Vice Commander)

Section 3: All Chapter delegates or alternates to a National or Department convention shall be elected by a majority vote, of the members present. However, if there are fewer nominees than authorized positions that the Chapter is entitled too, then all such candidates nominated for delegate or alternate shall be declared elected.

Article 9 - Membership

Section 1: The membership committee shall investigate all new applicants for membership in this Chapter and a report made to the Chapter at the next regular meeting for acceptance or rejection.

Para 1: No applicant shall be denied Chapter membership, if he or she meets the eligibility requirements as set forth in the Nat'l Constitution and By Laws.

Section 2: The Senior Vice Commander shall be the Membership Committee Chairman and as such is responsible for campaigns to increase Chapter membership.

Section 3: Only members in good standing are eligible to vote on any motion or at any election.

Para 1: For the purpose of this section a member is considered in good standing if he/she is current on all dues obligation and has not had three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from regular scheduled general membership meetings.

Section 4: Members of another Chapter may secure transfer of membership to this Chapter, with the approval of the members present at the meeting voting the individual into Chapter # 144. Any transferee requesting a transfer and is not a member in good standing from the "other" Chapter, *may* be denied membership in our Chapter.

Para 1: Any transfer of membership into our Chapter, approved by the members present affords the new transferred member all the rights and privileges of any other Chapter member *after* National DAV confirms the transfer.

Article 10 - Finances

Section 1: The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Chapter. He/She or other designated officer shall be charged with handling normal finances, in the operation of the Chapter.