

**DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
DEPARTMENT BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The organization shall be known as "The Department of California, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States", and its territorial jurisdiction shall conform with the territorial boundaries of the State of California.

**ARTICLE II
SUPREME AUTHORITY**

The Supreme Authority of this association shall be lodged in the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and this association shall at all times be governed by the Congressional Charter and By-Laws of the said National Convention, together with legislation enacted by the National Convention and orders promulgated by the Commander-in-Chief, in accordance with the said Congressional Charter and By-Laws.

**ARTICLE III
DISTRICTS**

SECTION 1:

The Department shall be divided into not more than thirty (30) Districts, in accordance with the mandate of the Department Convention held in Fresno, California, June 22-25, 1981 inclusive.

DISTRICT NO. 1

County of San Diego.

DISTRICT NO. 2

County of Orange.

DISTRICT NO. 3

County of San Bernardino with the following boundaries: North-South Western boundary to proceed North to junction of Highway 395, thence, Northeast on East side of Trona Road to Salt Wells Area, then East to Naval Weapons Center Western boundary line, then North to Inyo County Line. Southern boundary proceeding from East to West, shall junction at County Line and Joshua Tree National Monument boundary, proceed North to an East-West line at the most Southern boundary of the Marine Corps Training Center, West to Eastern Boundary of San Bernardino National Forest, South to County Line. This area to include Yucca Valley Post No. 9431; Joshua Tree Post No. 7264 and Twenty-nine Palms Post No. 4229 transferred to the jurisdiction of the 22nd District. Proceed West to the

point where the County line proceeds South, District boundary to proceed North to an imaginary line approximately 5 miles North of Yucaipa, West to an imaginary line approximately 6 miles West of Yucaipa, South to County Line Road approximately 3 miles West of Calimesa, then proceed Westerly on County Line. This area to include Yucaipa Post No. 7347 transferred to the jurisdiction of the 23rd District. The jurisdiction of Earp-Big River Post 10997 located in Big River is transferred to District 22.

DISTRICT NO. 4

So much of Los Angeles County as is situated in the following boundaries: South part of Los Angeles County bounded by Pacific Ocean from Ventura to Orange County line. Bounded on North by Ventura Boulevard, starting at Ventura County line East to Mulholland Drive at Calabasas; Mulholland Drive from Ventura Boulevard East to Laurel Canyon Boulevard; Laurel Canyon Boulevard South to Sunset Boulevard; Sunset Boulevard West to La Cienega Boulevard; La Cienega Boulevard South to City limits of Culver City boundary near Genesee Street; Culver City Eastern boundary line South to Los Angeles County and City line; Los Angeles County and City line East to South La Brea Avenue; South La Brea Avenue South to West Slauson Avenue; West Slauson Avenue East to Crenshaw Avenue; Crenshaw Avenue South to Manchester Avenue; Manchester Avenue East to South Alameda Avenue; South Alameda Avenue North to East Slauson Avenue; East Slauson Avenue East to Downey Road; Downey Road North to Fruitland Avenue; Fruitland Avenue East to 52nd Street to South Atlantic Boulevard; South Atlantic Boulevard to Anaheim-Telegraph Road; Anaheim-Telegraph Road to Shoemaker Road and South to Orange County line, excluding Lt. Ray Musgrove Post No. 7734, situated at Huntington Park, transferred to the jurisdiction of the 6th District, with the exception of Post 7799 located in Agoura Hills which is transferred to the jurisdiction of the 7th District.

DISTRICT NO. 5

So much of Los Angeles as is situated within the following boundaries: Bounded on West by Laurel Canyon Boulevard starting at Mulholland Drive and running South to Sunset Boulevard; Sunset Boulevard West to La Cienega Boulevard; La Cienega Boulevard South to City limits of Culver City at Washington Boulevard; Washington Boulevard East to Culver City boundary near Genesee Street; Culver City Eastern boundary line South to Los Angeles and County line; Los Angeles City and County line East to South La Brea Avenue; South La Brea Avenue South to West Slauson Avenue. Bounded on South by West Slauson Avenue starting at South La Brea Avenue and running East to Crenshaw; Crenshaw South to West Manchester Avenue; West Manchester Avenue East to South Alameda Avenue; South Alameda Avenue North to East Slauson Avenue; East Slauson Avenue East to Downey Road; Downey Road North to Fruitland Avenue; Fruitland Avenue East to 52nd Street to South Atlantic Boulevard. Bounded on East by South Atlantic Boulevard, starting at East 52nd Street and following Atlantic Boulevard, North to Monterey Park West City line North of Hammel Street; Monterey Park West City line to North to Garvey Avenue; Garvey Avenue West to Alhambra South City line and following line West to Alhambra West City line at Ramona Boulevard;

Alhambra West City line North to Southern boundary of South Pasadena at Kendall Street. Bounded on North by Mulholland Drive starting at Laurel Canyon Boulevard and running East to Cahuenga Pass; Cahuenga Pass South to Franklin Avenue; Franklin Avenue East to North-Western Avenue; North Western Avenue North to Los Feliz Boulevard; Los Feliz Boulevard East to Los Angeles River; Los Angeles River South to Arroyo Seco Drive; Arroyo Seco Drive North to South Pasadena West City Line above Monterey Road; South Pasadena West City line South to South Pasadena City line; South Pasadena City line East to Alhambra City line at Kendall Street.

DISTRICT NO. 6

So much of Los Angeles County as is situated within the following boundaries: Southern boundary starting at Anaheim-Telegraph Road, running Southeast on Telegraph Road to Shoemaker Road, South on Shoemaker Road to Imperial Highway, East on Imperial Highway to Orange County line to San Bernardino County line. Eastern boundary San Bernardino County line North to junction with State Highway No. 2. Western boundary South Atlantic Boulevard North from Anaheim-Telegraph to Monterey Park West City line North of Hammel Street, Monterey Park West City line North to Garvey Avenue, West to Alhambra South City line and following line West to Alhambra South City line and following line West to Alhambra West City line at Ramona Boulevard, Alhambra West City line North to Southern boundary of South Pasadena at Kendall Street, South Pasadena South City line West to South Pasadena West City line; South Pasadena South City line West to South Pasadena West City line, South Pasadena West City line North to Pasadena South City line and following Pasadena South City line North to La Canada Verdugo Road, La Canada Verdugo Road to junction with State Highway No. 2, North East to junction with Upper Big Tujunga Road. Northern boundary from the junction of Upper Big Tujunga Road and State Highway No. 2 North East to the junction of State Highway No. 2 and the Los Angeles - San Bernardino County line.

DISTRICT NO. 7

So much of Los Angeles County as is situated within the following Boundaries: Western boundary Ventura County line North from Ventura Boulevard to Kern County line. Northern boundary Kern County line East from Ventura County line to 260th Street. Southern boundary Ventura Boulevard East from Ventura County line to Mulholland Drive West of Calabasas, Mulholland Drive East to Cahuenga Pass South to Franklin Avenue East to North Western Avenue; North Western Avenue North to Los Feliz Boulevard; East to the Los Angeles River; Los Angeles River South to Arroyo Seco Drive; Arroyo Seco Drive North to South Pasadena West City line above Monterey Road. Eastern Boundary South Pasadena West City line to Pasadena South City line; Pasadena West City line from South City line North to La Canada Verdugo Road North to Michigan Avenue West to State Highway 2 (Angeles Crest Highway); North to County N-13 (Angeles Forest Highway); Continue North to Sierra Highway; North to Avenue S; East to 20th Street; North to Avenue P; Northern Boundary Avenue P West to 10th Street West; South to N-2 (Elizabeth Lake Road); West and North on N-2 (Elizabeth Lake Road)

to Three Points; North on 260th Street to Kern County line. Post 7799 located in Agoura Hills is under the jurisdiction of the 7th District. Post 3866 located in Ventura County is under the jurisdiction of the 7th District.

DISTRICT NO. 8

Counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo, except Post No. 10049, Simi Valley.

DISTRICT NO. 9

The County of Kern with the exception of that portion lying East of the West Side of the Kern River at the Southerly boundary of the Tulare County line, thence South along the Kern River and Burlando Road to Caliente-Bodfish Road, thence South along Caliente-Bodfish Road to the State Highway 58, thence East to the Bear Valley-Stallion Springs subdivision, thence South and East along said subdivision perimeter to the Tejon Creek, Thence East to the extension of 170th Street West, thence East to the San Bernardino County line, thence North to the Inyo County line, thence West to the point of beginning, inclusive.

DISTRICT NO. 10

Counties of Inyo, Mono and Alpine.

That portion of Kern County beginning at the junction of the Kern River and the Southern boundary of the Tulare County line, thence South along the West bank of the Kern River and Burlando Road to the Caliente-Bodfish Road, thence South along the Caliente-Bodfish Road to State Highway 58, thence East to the Bear Valley-Stallion Springs subdivision, thence South and East along the subdivision perimeter to the Tejon Creek, thence East to the extension of 170th Street West, thence South to the Northern boundary of Los Angeles County line, thence East to the San Bernardino County line, thence North to the Inyo County line, thence West to the Kern River.

That Northwestern portion of San Bernardino County beginning at the junction of U. S. Highway 395, Kern-San Bernardino County line and Trona Road. North East on Trona Road to Salt Wells Area, then East to Naval Weapons Center boundary line, then North to Inyo County Line, thence West to the Kern-San Bernardino County line and then South to the junction with U. S. Highway 395.

That portion of Los Angeles County beginning at the junction of 260th Street West and the Kern-Los Angeles County line, thence South to Elizabeth Lake Road, thence Southeast on Elizabeth Lake Road to 10th Street West, then North to Avenue P, East to 20th Street East, thence South to Avenue S, thence West to Old Sierra Highway, South to Angeles Forest Highway, N-3, South to Angeles Crest Highway, East to the San Bernardino County line, North to the Kern County line and then West along the Kern County line to 260th Street West.

DISTRICT NO. 11

Counties of Fresno, Madera and Mariposa, not including Coalinga, Fresno County, transferred to the jurisdiction of the 24th District, and Coulterville, Mariposa County, transferred to the jurisdiction of the 13th District, plus Post No. 2487, Los Banos, Merced County, and Dos Palos, Merced County.

DISTRICT NO. 12

Counties of Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito and San Mateo County, except Daly City, Colma and Broadmoore, which will be under the jurisdiction of the 15th District.

DISTRICT NO. 13

Counties of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Calaveras, Amador and Merced, not including Post No. 2487, Los Banos, Merced County, and Dos Palos, Merced County, plus Coulterville, Mariposa County.

DISTRICT NO. 14

County of Alameda.

DISTRICT NO. 15

All of County of San Francisco and that portion of San Mateo County situated with the city boundaries of Daly City, Colma and Broadmoor.

DISTRICT NO. 16

Counties of Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Napa and Solano.

DISTRICT NO. 17

Counties of Yolo, Sacramento, Placer, Nevada and El Dorado to include Truckee, and South Lake Tahoe, California.

DISTRICT NO. 18

Counties of Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter and Yuba, except Post No. 1932, Red Bluff, Tehama County, transferred to the jurisdiction of the 20th District.

DISTRICT NO. 19

Counties of Sierra, Plumas, Lassen and Modoc.

DISTRICT NO. 20

Counties of Trinity, Shasta and Siskiyou, and Post No. 1932, Red Bluff, Tehama County.

DISTRICT NO. 21

Counties of Humboldt and Del Norte.

DISTRICT NO. 22

Imperial County and the section of Riverside County East of the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains, bordered on the North by the San Bernardino County line and on the East by the California-Arizona border, not including Twenty-nine Palms Post No. 4229, situated at Twenty-nine Palms, San Bernardino County and Joshua Tree Post No. 7264, situated at Joshua Tree, San Bernardino County. Also including Post No. 9431, Yucca Valley, and San Bernardino County. Earp-Big River Post 10997 located in Big River is under the jurisdiction of District 22.

DISTRICT NO. 23

All of Riverside County lying East of the Orange County line bound on the North and Northwest by San Bernardino County line and bound on the East by the San Jacinto Mountains and the Santa Rosa Mountains, including Post No. 7347, Yucaipa Valley, including the City of Beaumont.

DISTRICT NO. 24

All of Tulare and Kings County West of the Inyo County line, South of the Fresno County line, North of the Kern County line, Southeast of the Monterey County line and Northeast of the San Luis Obispo County line, the City of Coalinga will be part of District No. 24.

DISTRICT NO. 25

County of Contra Costa.

SECTION 2:

- a. Each of said Districts in the Department shall elect, as provided in the National By-Laws, a District Commander, who shall be a member of the Council of Administration, and such other officers as these By-Laws may hereafter provide.
- b. District Commanders shall be the personal representatives of the Department Commander in their respective Districts.
- c. District Commanders shall lend all assistance possible to coordinate and advance the welfare of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in

their respective Districts, shall make monthly reports to the Department Commander, and perform such other duties as may be assigned to them by the Department Commander, the Council of Administration or the Department Convention. They shall attend all meetings of the Council of Administration.

SECTION 3:

The elective District Officers shall, in addition to the District Commander, be the Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Chaplain and three (3) Trustees unless the Manual of Procedure, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. shall prescribe otherwise. Under all circumstances, this section will comply with the Manual of Procedure, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.

SECTION 4:

The Commander of each District shall appoint an Adjutant, and if the District By-Laws so provide, an Officer-of-the-Day, Service Officer, two (2) Color Bearers, two (2) Color Guards, a Bugler and a Guard.

SECTION 5:

- a. The District Commander's duties shall be: To preside over the District Convention and at least one District meeting each year; to promote schools of instruction for Post Officers at District meetings; to act as liaison between said Posts in the District and the Department; to act as liaison between the Department Commander and the County Council Commanders and to do whatever may be for the best interest of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.
- b. The District Adjutant shall be the corresponding officer of the District, and shall keep a correct record of the minutes of each District meeting and each District Convention. Immediately after each District Convention, he shall notify the Department Adjutant of the names and addresses of all elective and appointive officers. The District shall forward to Department Headquarters not later than fifteen (15) days after each meeting (regular or special) and convention, an official copy of the minutes of such meeting or convention.

**ARTICLE IV
PER CAPITA TAX**

SECTION 1:

The Department Per Capita Tax shall be \$10.00 of which fifty percent (50%) of the gross revenue derived from per capita tax levies received by Department during the fiscal year of July 1 through June 30 shall be impounded in a Dues Reserve Fund. No money shall be disbursed, nor shall any obligation be incurred against this fund

until after July 1 of the following Fiscal Year, at which time all monies to the credit of the fund shall be transferred to the General Fund for expenditures in accordance with the approved budget.

SECTION 2:

Each year in accordance with the approved budget the Per Capita tax available shall by approval of the Department Council of Administration be allocated as needed.

SECTION 3:

Admission fees received shall be used for extension purposes, organization of new Posts and membership recruiting. Such fees shall be carried in a separate fund and expended for purposes indicated.

**ARTICLE V
COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION**

SECTION 1:

The Council of Administration shall meet at least 3 times throughout the year for business purposes, once within 48 hours of the adjournment of the State Convention at the Convention site location and again if necessary, in October or November at a location selected by the State Commander and again in January at a location in Sacramento and finally just prior to the State Convention at the Convention site location. Special meetings called by the State Commander or upon the written request of the majority of the Council of Administration will be held at a location to be determined by the State Commander.

SECTION 2:

The Council shall, by budget, establish salaries and/or expenses for Department Officers and Assistants; the allowances, if any, to be made to the Council members, the Department Sergeant-at-Arms; the Editor of "The California Veteran", and committees for attendance at council meetings.

SECTION 3:

In accordance with the provisions of the National By-Laws, this Department, through its Department Council of Administration, at its first meeting following the Department Convention shall adopt and approve an annual budget. The expenditures outlined within major categories in such budget, as adopted and approved, shall not be exceeded in any categories within the budget or the complete budget, except when it has been determined by the Auditor and the Quartermaster that money is available. Such action must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval of those Council of Administration members present and voting at such a regular or special meeting.

SECTION 4:

The Council of Administration shall confirm the appointment of the Department Adjutant, Department Legislative Advocate, Legislative Committee Chairman, the Department Service Director, Service Committee Chairman, the Convention Chairman/Director and the members of the Board of Review.

SECTION 5:

In addition to other legal requirements under existing local laws, the Council of Administration shall have the authority to purchase, sell or mortgage any Real Estate, only after written notice of such a proposal has first been given to all members of the Council of Administration, 30 days prior to such a regular or special meeting at which the proposal is to be considered, and then only by two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval of those members at a regular or special meeting.

SECTION 6:

The Department Commander shall not solicit the Council of Administration to vote by a mailed ballot on any issue pertaining to the spending of monies. Only a properly convened meeting, regular or special, of the Council of Administration may be used to gain authorization for the expenditure of funds not covered by the then approved Department Budget.

SECTION 7:

Deleted

SECTION 8:

That the members of the Council of Administration must have the advice and the recommendation of the Department Judge Advocate before taking action on any Contract that is to be signed by the Department Officers binding the Department of California to such a contract.

SECTION 9:

When the VFW, Department of California, is considering to have a fund raiser that is identical and will conflict with the Ladies Auxiliary fund raiser which they have in operation now, and have had in prior years, a Liaison Committee, composed of the State VFW. Senior Vice Commander, the State VFW Junior Vice Commander and the State VFW. Adjutant-Quartermaster shall meet with the State Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW and come to a definite understanding, before it can be put before the men's VFW Council of Administration for approval.

**ARTICLE VI
DELEGATES**

SECTION 1:

Each Post, at a regular or special meeting held not later than May 1st annually shall elect (1) one delegate and (1) one alternative to the Department Convention for every (30) thirty members or a fraction thereof in good standing in the Post on the membership cut-off date for the month of April of the then current year.

**ARTICLE VII
DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

SECTION 1:

Convention sites shall be determined no more than five (5) years in advance.

SECTION 2:

Cities desiring to host Department Conventions shall submit a request through the appropriate District and/or Department Headquarters on forms provided, outlining the site, hotel and meeting space information. It shall be the responsibility of the Department Adjutant-Quartermaster and/or designated individual(s) to obtain, review, and prepare the appropriate material for the Council of Administrations selection and/or approval.

SECTION 3:

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SECTION 4:

The Council of Administration shall review, select and approve Department Convention site(s) annually at least three years in advance.

SECTION 5:

Conventions of the Department of California, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, shall not exceed five (5) days duration inclusive of the first Council of Administration meeting and will be held not earlier than ninety (90) days prior to, and be concluded not later than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the National Convention.

SECTION 6:

Each Post, in accordance with the provisions of the National By-Laws, pay a (\$6.00) six dollar registration fee for each accredited delegate to the Department Convention. The Department Quartermaster shall place these funds in a restricted

convention account and all funds not used during the current convention shall be held within said account for future conventions.

SECTION 7:

- a. Resolutions may be submitted to Department Headquarters by Posts, Districts or County Councils if the Resolution was acted on at a regular or special meeting. Resolutions must be signed by the respective Commander and attested to by the Adjutant. In order for the Resolution to be published in the Tally Book it must be received at Department no later than May 1st of each year. Any member of the current Council of Administration and all Past Department Commanders may also submit Resolutions.
- b. Resolutions submitted at the Department Convention shall be submitted in writing no later than the close of the business session on the second day of the Convention."

**ARTICLE VIII
COMMITTEES**

SECTION 1:

- a. Standing committees of each Department Convention shall be as follows:

Registration	Americanism
Credentials	Legislative
Organization & Rules	Veterans Employment
General Resolutions	Service & Hospital
Constitution, By-Laws & Ritual	

- b. The Department Commander will appoint all members of the Department Convention Committees, in such numbers as he deems advisable and in doing so will designate the Chairman and Vice Chairman of each. He may appoint such additional Department special committees as he deems advisable or required of him by the Department Convention, Department By-Laws, Department Council of Administration, National Convention, National By-Laws, National Council of Administration or the Commander-in-Chief. The Department Commander may serve as an ex-officio member on all committees during his presence at committee meetings.
- c. The Credentials Committee and the Organization and Rules Committee will meet in advance of the convening of the convention to establish registration criteria and Convention Rules of Order.
- d. The General Resolutions Committee will receive all resolutions not otherwise directed to other committees, and may function through subcommittees to be appointed by the Committee Chairman.

- e. The Americanism Committee will receive all resolutions dealing with (1) Americanism; (2) Youth Activities; (3) Patriotism; (4) and all other matters falling within the scope of Americanism.

SECTION 2:

- (a) *The following VFW Program Committees may be appointed by the Department Commander to serve during the Administrative period:*

*Buddy Poppy
Citizenship Education
Community Activities
Legislative Activities
Military Service Programs
Membership
Safety and Recognition
Veterans Service Programs
Youth Activities*

- (b) *Each committee may consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, and at least (3) members, the Department Commander may appoint as many committee members as deemed necessary and shall designate the Chairman and Vice Chairman of each committee.*
- (c) *Travel reimbursement and or expenses authorized for Committee Chairman and its members shall not exceed the amount appropriated in the budget for the administrative year as approved by the Council of Administration.*

SECTION 3: Legislative

This Committee shall guard the welfare of the Veteran in Local, State and National legislation that would benefit the Veteran, his dependents, or his survivors and take action to avert or remove legislation unfavorable to the Veteran as it deems best.

The State Legislative Committee shall keep the membership informed of Legislation affecting Veterans on State and National level, and make recommendations for action to the Council of Administration.

SECTION 4: Public Relations

This Committee shall be charged with proper relations of this organization with the community or other unit of society, whether for prevention, conservation, emergency relief, or the cause of the Veteran in his relation to the citizenry. It may function through subcommittees, at the option of the Chairman, who shall have authority to appoint such subcommittees.

SECTION 5: Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees shall, at least quarterly, properly audit the Quartermaster's Financial Records, the Adjutant's Records, ensure compliance with the Congressional Charter and By-Laws Sec. 517 and the Manual of Procedure Sec. 517 and review the current year Budget for compliance as approved by the Council of Administration. The committee shall submit a detailed report of such audit and all other activity of the committee to the Department Commander for submission to the Department Council of Administration.

A member of this committee shall be known as a Department Trustee and appointed for a term of five (5) years, except that (5) five members shall initially be appointed for terms of (1) one, (2) two, (3) three, (4) four and (5) five years and thereafter the State Commander shall appoint (1) one member for a term of (5) five years. The State Commander shall appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman from the members on the committee. A member of the Department Council of Administration, Department Committees nor more than (1) member from the same District shall not serve at any one time.

SECTION 6:

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SECTION 7: Redistricting

The Redistricting Committee shall consist of (3) members who shall be appointed by the State Commander beginning with the 2004-2005 Administrative year for the purposes of investigating the need for changes of boundaries within the Department of California, Veterans of Foreign Wars, making recommendations relative to such changes and assisting in the implementation of any changes. Members of the Committee shall serve for the following terms:

- (a) One (1) for one (1) year term
- (b) One (1) for two (2) year term
- (c) One (1) for three (3) year term

The Committee members shall rotate up (1) one year and the (3) three year member shall be appointed by the State Commander. The State Commander shall designate the member who is serving the (1) one year term to be Chairman. Not more than (1) member from a District shall serve at any one time.

SECTION 8: *By-Laws, Policies and Procedures*

By direction of the State Commander this committee shall be responsible for reviewing, evaluating and recommending changes of, but not limited to, the By-laws, Policies and or Procedures of the Department of California, Veterans of Foreign Wars. This committee shall report all activities to the State Commander at least annually. Members of the Committee shall serve for the following terms:

- (d) One (1) for one (1) year term
- (e) One (1) for two (2) year term

(f) *One (1) for three (3) year term*

The Committee members shall rotate up (1) one year and the (3) three-year member shall be appointed by the State Commander. The State Commander shall designate the member who is serving the (1) one year term to be Chairman. A member of the Department Council of Administration nor more than (1) member from a District shall serve at any one time.

ARTICLE IX SERVICE DEPARTMENT

SECTION 1:

The Department Service Director shall be an actively practicing Service Officer of the Department of California, fully accredited with the General Counsel's Office of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The Department Service Director, in accordance with the policies and procedures adopted by the Department Service Committee and approved by the Department Council of Administration, shall be responsible for the administration, supervision and technical guidance of all activities, programs and personnel of the Department Service Program.

SECTION 2:

The Department Service Committee shall consist of the State Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Jr. Past State Commander, and (1) one appointed member at the discretion of the State Commander who will serve as the Chairman. The State Adjutant/Quartermaster, and Service Director shall be non voting members of the committee.

SECTION 3:

Under the supervision of the Department Council of Administration, and subject to the provisions of the Department By-Laws and orders of the Department Convention, the Department Service Committee shall establish the policy under which the Veterans Service work of the Department shall be conducted and make appropriate budget recommendations.

SECTION 4:

The Department Service Committee shall establish the practice and procedures for representation by Service officers accredited to the Department of Veterans Affairs or other federal or state government agencies through the VFW, Department of California provided these procedures do not conflict with any provision of the National By-Laws or policies and procedures as adopted by the National Veterans Service Committee.

SECTION 5:

All welfare, poppy and service monies allocated to Veterans Service work shall be kept in a separate fund and disbursed as approved by the Department Council of Administration.

**ARTICLE X
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION**

SECTION 1:

The official publication of the Department of California, Veterans of Foreign Wars shall be, "The California Veteran".

SECTION 2:

The Department Commander shall appoint an Editor with salary as authorized by the Council of Administration.

SECTION 3:

The publication will reflect and abide by the official mandates of the Department Convention.

SECTION 4:

The Department Commander may appoint a Business Manager who will be charged with the advertising in "The California Veteran".

SECTION 5:

The Department Commander, the Department Adjutant and the Editor of "The California Veteran" will have control of the content of The California Veteran, including the type of advertising sold and published.

**ARTICLE XI
DEPARTMENT FUNDS**

SECTION 1:

Department Funds shall not be used under any circumstances as a loan or donation to any individual or individuals, nor shall they be used as a loan or donation to finance, or assist to finance, any private, or public, business firm, corporation or promoter.

SECTION 2:

Department funds shall be disbursed in accordance with Section 517(a)(4) of the National VFW Manual of Procedure and only the Department Quartermaster's signature shall be required.

ARTICLE XII

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**ARTICLE XIII
MISCELLANEOUS**

The Department Commander is authorized to issue citations and awards when properly requested. No awards or citations of any description shall be issued by the Department of California or by any County Council, District or Post within the Department to any candidate for an elective public office between the date of the final day for the filing of a candidacy to office and the date of the final or general election day.

SECTION 1: Consolidations

Two or more Posts may consolidate under the Provisions of Section 209, VFW By-Laws and Manual of Procedure.

SECTION 2: Men's Auxiliary

A Post in the Department may form a Men's Auxiliary in accordance with Article XIII of the National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure, and procedures and rules established by the Department.

**ARTICLE XIV
AMENDMENTS**

SECTION 1: *By-Law Amendments*

These By-laws may only be amended or altered by the State Convention by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a stated meeting thereof; provided, that such amendments have been forwarded, through channels, have been properly approved and have been proposed by a Post, a County Council, a District, or have been recommended by a State Officer, including Past State Commanders and written notice thereof, together with a copy of the proposed amendment, has been given each Post by the State Adjutant at least thirty (30) days before the assembling of the State Convention. All amendments adopted at any State Convention according to the provisions of this section shall take effect thirty (30) days after the final adjournment of the State Convention at which they were adopted.

SECTION 2:

Deleted

SECTION 3:

Deleted

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the above By-Laws of the Department of California Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, were reviewed and adopted by the 17th Department Convention in Oroville in 1937, were duly approved by the Commander-in-Chief; were amended by resolution of subsequent Department Conventions; and were revised and amended by the 41st Annual Department Convention in 1961; by the 42nd Annual Department Convention in 1962; by the 45th Annual Department Convention in 1965; by the 46th Annual Department Convention in 1966; by the 47th Annual Department Convention in 1967; by the Annual Department Convention in 1969; by the 50th Annual Department Convention in 1970; by the 51st Annual Department Convention in 1971; by the 54th Annual Department Convention in 1974; by the 55th Annual Department Convention in 1975; by the 56th Annual Department Convention in 1976; by the 57th Annual Department Convention in 1977; by the 58th Annual Department Convention in 1978; by the 59th Annual Department Convention in 1979; by the 61st Annual Department Convention in 1981; by the 62nd Annual Department Convention in 1982; by the 63rd Annual Department Convention in 1983; by the 66th Annual Convention in 1986; by the 67th Annual Department Convention in 1987; by the 68th Annual Department Convention in 1988; and the 69th Annual Department Convention in 1989, and as amended by the 70th Annual Department Convention in June, 1990, and as amended by the 71st Annual Department Convention in June, 1991, and as amended by the 72nd Annual Department Convention in June, 1992, and as amended by the 73rd Annual Department Convention in June, 1993, and as amended by the 74th Annual Department Convention in June, 1994, and as amended by the 75th Annual Department Convention in June, 1995, and as amended by the 76th Annual Department Convention in June, 1996, and as amended by the 77th Annual Department Convention in June 1997, and as amended by the 79th Annual Department Convention in June 1999, and as amended by the 80th Annual Department Convention in July 2000, and as amended by the 81st Annual Convention in July 2001, and as amended by the 82nd Annual Convention in June 2002, and as amended by the 83rd Annual Convention in June 2003, and as amended by the 84th Annual Convention in June 2004, and as amended by the 85th Annual Convention in June 2005, and as amended by the 87th Annual Convention in June 2007.

JOHN G. LOWE
State Adjutant\Quartermaster