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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
 DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA

THE SOURCE

COMMUNICATE
 ACT
 RECRUIT
 EDUCATE



VOLUME 33
 ISSUE 11
 JUNE 2026

Greetings from your Detachment of Florida Commander!

Thank You to Detachment Adjutant Christian Rapp for the fantastic job you and your American Legion Post 323 Family did for the Commander's Homecoming. A thank you does not emit the true appreciation for all your hard work and dedication for making this event a true success. Thank you everyone for coming and showing your generosity for our charity, C.O.T.A. Christian sent out numerous letters to many squadrons and members, and the response back was amazing. God Bless you all.

In last month's article, I asked our Area Vice Commanders to get back to me regarding our recruiting challenge. "0" responses were given. This is not acceptable. We obviously need more training and dedication in how to do our jobs effectively and improve our communication skills. Our mission, **C.A.R.E.**, Communicate, Act, Recruit and Educate were in place for a reason. We have to engage with our organization and our members. If you are an officer, this is especially what you should be doing. Motivate the rest of your team to be the best they can be. Lead by example. Mentor your replacement to be the best vision of himself. What you and our squadrons do everyday **MATTERS**.

As we get close to the end of the 2025-2026 service year, I would like to congratulate all the returning officers and the incoming officers. Thank you to the outgoing officers for your support over the past year. As I have met so many dedicated and positive members throughout my travels, I need to impress upon everyone the amount of work being done by several members of our team is absolutely encouraging.

I would not have been able to do my job without the daily input from Adjutant Rapp and Asst. Adjutant John Jennings. Take a little time and contact these two men. Thank them for their dedication and support. They are here for all of us, to help us be the best we can be for our organization. You have heard this before, and I will reiterate. There is no "I" in team. It is, Us, We and Ours. Selflessness, Cohesion, Trust, Honesty, Unity, Knowledge and Mindset. These are traits that exemplify who we are and what we do. Thank you everyone for supporting me throughout the year and let's work hard to make next year even better.

PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE

For God and Country,

Michael Nigbor
 Detachment Commander
 Sons of The American Legion
 Detachment of Florida



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2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATES:

September 4, 2025	10%	ACHIEVED!	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
October 9, 2025	25%	ACHIEVED!	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
November 6, 2025	35%	ACHIEVED!	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
December 4, 2025	45%	ACHIEVED!	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
January 8, 2026	60%	ACHIEVED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
February 5, 2026	75%	ACHIEVED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
March 5, 2026 *	80%	ACHIEVED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
April 2, 2026	90%	ACHIEVED!	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
May 7, 2026	100%	ACHIEVED!	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
May 28, 2026**	105%		

* Legion Birthday (March 13th) ** Delegate Cut-Off



CHRISTIAN M RAPP

DETACHMENT ADJUTANT

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THE END IS HERE!

Next week we will be meeting in Orlando to handle the final business of the year and to elect the leadership for the upcoming 2026-2027 service year. This year has been another amazing year with the Detachment achieving it's **31st Consecutive All-Time High** in membership. We still haven't reached Commander Nigbor's goal of 30,000 members, but we have time. You'll hear more about that next week at Convention.

As this is the last edition of 'The Source' for the 2025-2026 Service Year, I'd like to touch of a few topics here for you all, especially for those who may not be able to attend Convention next week as well as provide some tips for Convention for those who will be attending.

REPORTING

We've made some changes to the way reports are submitted this year, and I feel it has been very effective. The first thing implemented this year was sending the Committee and Commission Chairmen the submitted reports as they came in so they would have time to review them prior to meeting at Convention where there is a limited amount of time to review the reports, judge the reports for awards and then conduct the other business of the meeting. Doing this has allowed the Committee/Commission chairs to reach out to the people who have submitted and give them input and guidance on their reports. I'd especially like to thank Americanism Chairman Gary Sanderson (my PITA) for staying on top of this with not only me, but the squadrons. We have a good start for next year and a great foundation to build on in assisting everyone with reporting. Speaking of which....

ONLINE REPORT SUBMISSION

One of the tools I created over the last two years was the online submission portal at **reporting.floridasons.org**, where you could submit all of your reports in one place online. Those that are proficient with computers have been able to submit their reports digitally instead of the old way by US Mail. This helped get the reports in and distributed quicker. If you read my article last month, you know that I have to scan all of the reports that are mailed to me, sort them and then distribute them. This method is a huge timesaver. I hope more of you will use the system next year.

COMING SOON....

Something new this year will be a new **Squadron Information Portal** where squadrons can log in and manage their squadron's information and generate and submit their reports electronically. Once you've submitted your reports, the system will store them. The following year, you will be able to pull up the previous year's report and start with that data to submit your new report. Some of you may have received an email from **portal@floridasons.org**. This is an invite for you to set up your account. Please set your up when you get the emails. I will resend emails the first week in July after I have finished setting up the new officer information from the submitted SIRs.

The new system is a stand-alone system, not connected to National. This is why the Squadron Information Reports (SIRs) are so vital. I've been entering the data from your SIRs to seed the database. Only Squadron Commanders and Squadron Adjutant will have access to the system. Currently, there are still some outstanding SIR reports, as we only have 55% of the Detachment with submissions. **SEND IN YOUR SIR REPORTS TODAY!** You can find the report on our website at <https://floridasons.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/03-SIR-2627.pdf> This report is due immediately after your squadron elections each year.

NOTE: The SIR report gets sent to Department so permissions to process membership in the myLegion.org system can be assigned. If you lose access in July, it is most likely because you haven't submitted this report.

THE DEADLINES FOR REPORTS ARE MAY 15th OF EACH YEAR, YET I STILL HAVE REPORTS COMING IN THROUGH THE MAIL.

As I am writing this, I am looking at a dozen or so to process and send out. Any reports that come in after today will not be considered for judging/awards at Convention, but your numbers will be rolled into the National CSR that I must complete for the Detachment by July 1st. If you are still sitting on your reports, **GET THEM IN NOW.**

All in all, reporting this year has increased, but we're currently still only around 50-55% in the main categories. While this is an improvement from last year, we must do better. We currently have 193 squadrons in our Detachment. Our Detachment sits as the 6th largest Detachment in our organization. Imagine the amount of money and time we'd list as donations if we all reported. Also, just imagine the strength this would give the American Legion when they go to D.C. to fight for our veterans.

(Detachment Adjutant Continued)

CONVENTION TIPS

This will be our final year meeting at the Hilton Lake Buena Vista (I can hear your applause already). For the next five years, we will be holding both Convention and Fall Conference at the Caribe Royale Orlando. If you are planning on booking your rooms, you may want to do so immediately after Convention next week. The Legion Block does not usually appear on the resort's online booking system until closer to the event. You'll want to **call** the resort if you want to get the special rate while booking early. I'm not sure if the rates are available just year, but I know you can usually get them early if you call.

DELEGATE REGISTRATION

We will have some contested elections this year. It is important that you register your delegates at Convention. The Credentials Committee will have a table set up at the entrance of our meeting room. Delegate Registration will be from 1pm-4pm on Thursday, 8am - 4pm on Friday, and 8:30am - 12:00pm on Saturday. You can download the delegate registration form from our website, or you can fill one out at the registration table at Convention. Make sure to bring cash or a blank check with you for the Delegate Registration Fee, which is \$5 per delegate. **CHECKS WILL NEED TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA.**

NOTE: *While you only need to pay \$5 per delegate, I recommend paying your entire delegate strength. The money collected from this helps us offset the cost of Convention which is rapidly increasing each year. Please consider doing this.*

SPEAKING OF DELEGATE STRENGTH ...

Currently, there is at least two contested elections to take place at our upcoming Convention. If you have a candidate that you would like to see win their election, it is important that you pay for your complete delegate strength, not just pay for the delegates on the floor for Convention. The new delegate strength report will be posted to the website later today.

DELEGATE STRENGTH FORMULA (BASED ON THE MEMBERSHIP REPORT AT CONVENTION TIME)

Sadly, while every tenured member of the Detachment of Florida should know the delegate strength formula, most do not. Here is the formula:

- ◆ 1 vote for your squadron Charter
- ◆ 1 vote for every 10 members
- ◆ 1 Vote for every At-Large Member that is on the floor at voting time. **AT-LARGE-MEMBERS ARE:**
 - * Past Detachment Commanders
 - * Current Officers (Commander, NEC, ANEC, Area Commanders, Chaplain, SAA, Historian)
 - * Current District and Elected District Vice Commanders (
if your district has more than one Vice Commander, only the **ELECTED VICE COMMANDER** counts)
 - * Adjutant Corps, Assistant SAAs and Judge Advocate do not count as they are appointed officers

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

If you have been reading 'The Source' for awhile now, you'll know that Judge Advocate Roberts has said that there are 27 Constitution and ByLaw Amendments that we will be voting on at this Convention. These amendments are provided at the end of this edition. Please take time to review them prior to next week's Convention. *(See the JA Article on Page 16 for more info)*

DONATION CHECKS

When making out your donation checks, please **make them out to the charity** and not the Detachment. If you are donating to a local charity, send the check to the local charity and then report that you made that donation at Convention. This makes it much easier for us to process the checks and get your donation where it needs to be. *(See Finance Officer Sheubrooks' article on page 15 for more information on this.)*

TRAINING AT CONVENTION

MT&D Chairman Pete Puzzo has some very informative training sessions planned for Thursday at Convention. Topics will include discussion and recruiting for our Committees & Commissions, Event Planning and Reporting along with some hands-on exercises, and will end with me giving training on how to do some very important things with the myLegion.org system. Both new members and tenured members are encouraged to attend. The full Convention agenda is at the end of this edition.

TIPS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

As we embark on another year everyone should be thinking about the future. In your year's travels and events pay attention, I mean REALLY pay attention, to what's going on around you. Have you encountered a member that you think would be valuable in any way to your District, Area or Detachment? Have you found someone that you think would be a perfect fit for a Committee? Encourage that person to get involved! We're always looking for new people to get involved at all levels of our organization. We should always be on the lookout for those who can someday take our place and keep the work of our organization going. **Rule of thumb: Mentor yourself out of a job!**

(Detachment Adjutant Continued)

USE THE OUTLETS AT YOUR DISPOSAL

The best way to be successful in the new year is to advertise your events, and I don't just mean on Social Media. If you are having an event, please email your event to me at thesource@floridasons.org. I will publish it all the way up until your event is held.

If you don't already, follow other squadrons, districts and areas on Facebook and whatever other social platforms you use. Share your events with them and share their events with your followers. Encourage supporting each other.

SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR 'THE SOURCE'

This publication is for EVERY MEMBER of our Detachment. Consider sending in articles about what your Squadron/Post Family has done. If you have a member that has done something amazing, send in something about that. We'll feature articles in the 'Source Spotlight' feature. Amazing accomplishments should be recognized.

THANK YOU!!

This year has been special to me as, I think, made some great advancements to streamline things and make them better for all next year. A couple of the things I mentioned earlier are just the tip of the iceberg. I'd like to give a special thanks to John Jennings who has assisted, and guided me with way-too-many things to count this year. I'm still waiting on my phone call, by the way.

Thanks also to Commission Chairs Bob O'Neal, Danny Roe, Gary (PITA) and Assistant Adjutant George Steger for stepping up and compiling the submitted end of year reports. This has taken a great burden off of my shoulders, especially since more reports are being submitted.

I would be remiss to not thank our Detachment Commander Michael 'Cabana Boy' Nigbor for his dedication and leadership this year. I have watched you travel the state (and Nation) for the Sons of The American Legion. I have seen how the members of our organization in our amazing Detachment have responded to your leadership. It has been an honor to serve by your side as your Adjutant. Thank you, my friend, for the opportunity.

It has been an amazing experience being your Detachment Adjutant. I'm finishing up my 4th year, and I am still learning every day. It's not an easy job, but it is a labor of love that does have a great reward when successful. I couldn't have come this far without your support. Thanks to each and every one of you for your continued support - I hope that I am lucky enough to be appointed your Detachment Adjutant for years to come.

That's it for now, I hope to see every one of you next week in Orlando. Please get there safely!

For God and Country,

Christian M Rapp

Detachment Adjutant
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida





JOHN JENNINGS

DETACHMENT ASSISTANT ADJUTANT

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Gentlemen,

We are quickly approaching our 54th Annual Detachment Convention and membership and Squadron reporting continue to be the major topic. We stay focused on both and finish our year strong.

Vice Commanders, District & District Vice Commanders, your District Constitutional Conference has happened or are forthcoming. The election of District Commanders and District Vice Commanders is happening or has happened. It's important for your Districts and Areas to finish the 2025-2026 year strongly and stay on task to help complete our Commanders membership goal of 30,000 members. This is a very important time of the year to set the future for our upcoming 2026-2027 campaign.

The Vice Commanders and District staff should be working with **ALL** Squadrons to complete **ALL** Detachment required paperwork that reflects the work of your Squadron to be supplied at or before our Annual Detachment Convention. This year is no different than any other year. Vice Commanders, District Commanders, and District Vice Commanders, please see that this information is given to all the Squadrons in your areas of responsibilities. Thank you in advance for your help and support. Let's make this year our best reporting year yet!

REQUIRED SQUADRON REPORTS

◆ SQUADRON CONSOLIDATED REPORT (CSR)

- **NATIONAL CSR** can be completed from two locations.
 - www.MyLegion.org for those in the Squadron with access.
 - www.floridasons.org under the reporting tab and follow the instructions to mail to National Headquarters or use the supplied email.
- **DETACHMENT CSR**
 - www.floridasons.org under the reporting tab and follow the instructions

The priority reports are the *National and Detachment Squadrons Consolidated Reports (CSR)*. **BOTH** reports are critical that the Squadrons complete **BOTH** reports and submitted as instructed. These reports are different and the calculations serve to different functions. The Detachment report supplies the Detachment with information so we the Detachment can submit our Detachment report to National. The National report is used to collect all information need to put together information for the American Legion National Commander when he addresses Congress at the Washington Conference. As you see these reports have different importance and both need to be completed.

- ◆ **SQUADRON INFORMATION REPORT (SIR)** – To be completed after Squadron Elections and can also be used for Officer changes during the year. This form is very important for the development of our Detachment contact directory.
- ◆ **ANNUAL SQUADRON DATA REPORT (SDR)** - The 2027 per printed SDR's were mailed to your Post. If you have not received yours, contact your Post Adjutant/Commander and discuss this with them. Follow the instructions supplied with the form.
- ◆ **COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTING** – Please have your information ready for your for meetings and ready for your presentation to the general membership. Time is going to be a priority!

This year Convention is going to be very busy. Please read the Constitutional Amendments that are posted on the Detachment website and make note with any questions. Judge Advocate Roberts has 27 Amendments to review, and we need to be ready to address as they are read. The website is www.floridasons.org

WHAT OUR SQUADRONS DO EVERYDAY MATTERS - BUT IF IT IS NOT DOCUMENTED, IT IS INVISIBLE BEYOND OUR FOUR WALLS.

More to come in other articles. Any questions please contact me at fl.johnjennings@gmail.com , I am here to help, always.

John Jennings

Detachment Assistant Adjutant
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



PAUL STAWICKI

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

membership@floridasons.org



Gentlemen,

Here are some highlights of squadrons below 100% membership strength as of our the Membership Report on today, June 1, 2026:

District 1

235 Ft Walton Beach 46 37 0 80.43% 9
 240 Warrington 67 59 0 88.06% 8
 340 Ensley 151 142 0 94.04% 9
 75 Crestview 75 73 0 97.33% 2
 378 Gulf Breeze 63 62 0 98.41% 1

District 2

33 Pensacola 10 2 0 20.00% 8
 272 Blountstown 14 6 0 42.86% 8
 13 Tallahassee 25 21 0 84.00% 4
 82 Lanark Village 62 61 0 98.39% 1

District 3

49 Monticello 10 8 0 80.00% 2
 107 Live Oak 40 37 0 92.50% 3
 224 Cherry Lake 54 52 0 96.30% 2

District 4

284 Belleview 79 50 0 63.29% 29
 16 Gainesville 22 15 0 68.18% 7
 237 Beverly Hills 91 85 0 93.41% 6
 155 Crystal River 224 215 0 95.98% 9
 236 Bronson 50 48 1 96.00% 2

District 5

37 St Augustine 20 15 0 75.00% 5
 372 Jacksonville 35 27 0 77.14% 8
 401 Hillard 26 21 1 80.77% 5
 233 Palm Valley 92 76 0 82.61% 16
 88 Jacksonville 61 53 1 86.89% 8
 250 Middleburg 201 183 9 91.04% 18
 283 Arlington 324 300 0 92.59% 24
 9 Jacksonville 56 53 0 94.64% 3

District 6

53 Sanford 10 2 0 20.00% 8
 19 Orlando 10 2 0 20.00% 8
 183 Altamonte Springs 111 90 13 81.08% 21
 101 Bushnell 60 49 2 81.67% 11
 63 Winter Garden 12 10 0 83.33% 2

District 6 Continued

80 St Cloud 178 161 10 90.45% 17
 112 Winter Park 21 20 0 95.24% 1
 219 Fruitland Park 111 109 0 98.20% 2
 347 Lady Lake 1120 1107 0 98.84% 13

District 7

15 Dade City 17 12 0 70.59% 5
 34 Haines City 98 89 0 90.82% 9
 3 Bartow 124 114 6 91.94% 10
 8 Winter Haven 372 363 2 97.58% 9

District 8

413 Arcadia 31 24 0 77.42% 7
 30 Sarasota 62 56 0 90.32% 6
 312 Oneco 124 114 0 91.94% 10
 266 Fruitville 141 132 1 93.62% 9
 24 Bradenton 158 151 3 95.57% 7
 309 Palmetto 144 139 0 96.53% 5
 69 Avon Park 427 420 8 98.36% 7
 325 Ellenton 95 94 0 98.95% 1

District 9

36 Ft Lauderdale 29 22 0 75.86% 7
 222 Oakland Park 69 63 0 91.30% 6
 310 Hallandale 39 37 0 94.87% 2

District 11

64 Okeechobee 35 20 0 57.14% 15
 277 Boca Raton 46 35 1 76.09% 11
 258 GreenAcres City 10 8 0 80.00% 2
 47 Lake Worth 91 82 0 90.11% 9
 271 Tequesta 87 82 0 94.25% 5
 141 Palm Beach County 65 62 0 95.38% 3

District 12

191 Melbourne 17 13 0 76.47% 4
 358 Ft Pierce 46 40 0 86.96% 6
 81 Melbourne 188 171 0 90.96% 17
 359 Port St John 177 166 0 93.79% 11
 117 Palm Bay 380 357 0 93.95% 23



PAUL STAWICKI

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

membership@floridasons.org



Gentlemen,

Here are some highlights of squadrons below 100% membership strength as of our the Membership Report on today, June 1, 2026:

District 12 Continued

40 Fort Pierce 140 134 0 95.71% 6
126 Jensen Beach 170 168 0 98.82% 2

District 13

192 Fort Myers 12 2 0 16.67% 10
38 Fort Myers 33 22 1 66.67% 11
136 St. James City 462 402 1 87.01% 60
323 Lehigh Acres 274 260 0 94.89% 14
130 Labelle 149 147 0 98.66% 2

District 14

31 Miami 110 90 0 81.82% 20
133 Palmetto Bay 80 71 0 88.75% 9
67 North Miami 39 37 11 94.87% 2

District 15

389 Ruskin 10 0 0 0.00% 10
186 Spring Hill 186 147 0 79.03% 39
147 Odessa 44 42 0 95.45% 2

District 15 Continued

138 Port Tampa City 681 655 11 96.18% 26
152 Tampa 184 182 1 98.91% 2

District 16

104 Pinellas Park 218 184 13 84.40% 34
14 St Petersburg 106 99 0 93.40% 7
158 Treasure Island 215 202 3 93.95% 13
252 Seminole 465 437 1 93.98% 28
79 New Port Richey 331 319 5 96.37% 12
7 Clearwater 169 163 0 96.45% 6

District 17

293 Interlachen 20 12 0 60.00% 8
6 Deland 59 38 0 64.41% 21
115 Bunnell 50 38 0 76.00% 12
255 Deltona 12 10 0 83.33% 2
17 New Smyrna Beach 126 112 0 88.89% 14
270 Port Orange 130 123 3 94.62% 7

These 89 Squadrons, for a variety of reasons, were unable to meet our most recent goal date of May 7th and are still working toward that mark as of May 14th. Together, they represent a total of 27,556 members, which places us 2,444 short of Commander Michael Nigbor's attainable goal of 30,000. If we continue to focus on reinstatements and renewals from last year's membership, there is still an opportunity to make meaningful progress.

The final number listed for each Squadron shows how many additional transmittals are needed to reach 100% strength, and for many of you that number is fewer than 10 to 20. As we reflect on this year, it is worth asking whether we have done all we can and where we may still be able to improve. That is a shared responsibility for Area Commanders, District Commanders, Squadron Commanders, and their staffs, and I include myself in that reflection as well. I recognize that I could have done more to follow up and support our leadership teams, and I am committed to strengthening that effort moving forward. If I am able to continue serving as Membership Chairman for the Detachment, I will work to provide stronger communication, accountability, and support next year.

I remain hopeful that we can still move closer to the 30,000 mark. For those seeking a position as Area Commander, District Commander, or Vice, please plan to attend the Ambassadors class after the close of business on Saturday. I would also appreciate the opportunity to speak with you during your caucus breakouts. I look forward to seeing everyone at our 54th Annual Convention. Congratulations on your elections to your various offices, and thank you for your continued dedication to the Sons of The American Legion

For God and Country,
Paul Stawicki

Membership Chairman
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



RAYMOND LEVENTHAL

DETACHMENT CHAPLAIN

chaplain@floridasons.org



REBIRTH THROUGH FAITH

My article this month is a compact version of the presentation to be given at the Sunday Faith Service to be held June 14th, 2026 at our annual Convention.

As we move toward the 250th anniversary of the United States of America, we are called not only to celebrate our nation's birth, but also to reflect on its future. Two and a half centuries ago, America was born out of sacrifice, courage, prayer, and conviction. It was not born perfect, but it was born with a promise: that liberty, dignity, responsibility, and self-government were worth defending and passing on.

That anniversary gives us an opportunity to ask important questions: Who are we now? What have we learned? What kind of people must we become if the next generation is to inherit not only our freedoms, but also the faith, courage, and moral seriousness needed to sustain them?

At the heart of those questions is one central truth: the power of rebirth through faith.

Faith teaches us that endings are never the final word when God is present. It teaches us that sorrow does not have to become destiny, and that what seems broken can still be renewed. Rebirth does not erase pain or deny scars. It means that pain does not have to control the future. Through God's grace, lives can be restored, families can be healed, communities can be mended, and even nations can find renewal.

"Faith teaches us that what appears broken or exhausted can still be renewed."

That truth applies not only to the human soul, but also to our national life. America has always carried both noble aspirations and painful contradictions. If we are to speak honestly about rebirth, we must begin with truth. Renewal does not come through denial. It comes through humility, gratitude, repentance, and the determination to become better than we have been.

Faith does not call us to worship the nation. It calls us to serve God and love our neighbor. But faith also teaches gratitude for the gifts entrusted to us, and among those gifts is this country. We honor America best not by pretending it has never stumbled, but by believing that, under God, it can rise again with greater wisdom and stronger moral vision.

For those of us in the American Legion Family, these questions are not abstract. We know something about sacrifice. We know something about service, memory, and perseverance. Veterans and their families understand in deeply personal ways what it means to begin again. Some rebirth is public and visible, marked by ceremonies and milestones. But some rebirth is quiet. It happens in prayer after midnight, in hard conversations, in the choice not to give up, and in the rediscovery of hope after grief.

"Every generation must choose again. No generation can coast on the virtue of the one before it."

As America approaches 250 years, perhaps what we need is not only celebration, but renewal. What might rebirth through faith look like?

First, it looks like humility. A nation is strongest when it remembers that it is accountable to principles greater than power and to truths greater than politics. Freedom is not self-sustaining; it must be reinforced by character, discipline, and reverence for what is right.

(Detachment Chaplain continued)

Second, it looks like moral courage. We rightly honor courage on the battlefield, but moral courage also means truthfulness, integrity, compassion, and doing what is right even when it is difficult.

Third, it looks like unity without uniformity. We do not all come from the same backgrounds or worship in the same ways, but we can still be bound together by shared devotion to liberty, justice, service, and the common good.

Finally, rebirth through faith looks like renewed devotion to service. The American Legion Family has long understood that service is not a slogan; it is a way of life. We serve veterans, military families, children, and communities. In doing so, we bear witness to a timeless truth: life is enlarged when it is given away for others.

“The future of our nation will not be secured by memory alone, but by renewal.”

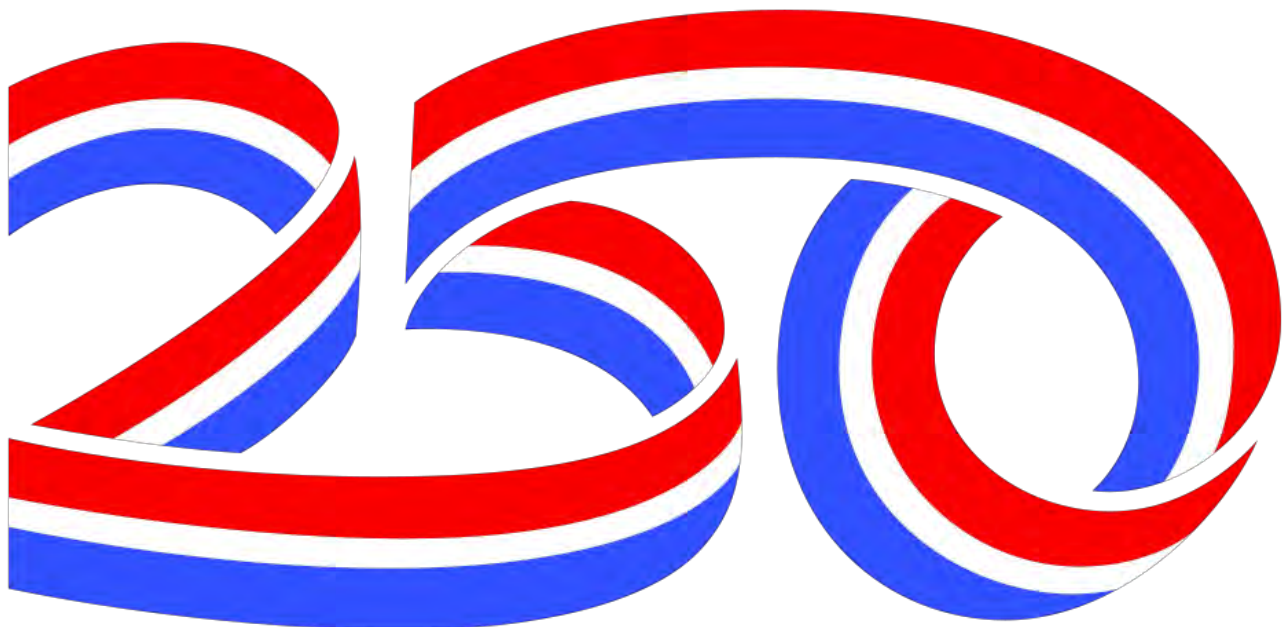
That is our task now. We are not merely celebrating the past; we are stewards of the future. May we be people of faith who believe that God can renew the weary heart, restore purpose where hopelessness once lived, and guide this nation toward its highest ideals.

As we reflect on America’s 250th anniversary, may we do so with gratitude for those who came before us, gratitude for the blessings of liberty, and hope for the future. And may God bless the American Legion Family, all who have worn the uniform, the families who have carried the burdens of service, and the United States of America as she seeks, through faith, continual rebirth.

I look forward to seeing you all at Convention this month. Safe travels, peace to you all.

Ray Leventhal
Detachment Chaplain
Sons of The American Legion

AMERICA





DANNY ROE

VICE COMMANDER EASTERN AREA

vceast@floridasons.org



Greetings from the Eastern Area!

I cannot believe this year has gone by so quickly. It has been my honor to represent the Eastern Area this past year. It was a lot of fun meeting you all and supporting your events, from the district meetings to your picnics to raise money for Boys and Girls State transportation. Anytime there is food, music, and a good time, I am there. Congratulations to District 6 on trying a new format for your District Picnic this year. Having it at a beautiful park was a great idea, and the turnout was fantastic. Then District 12 picnics are always a great time and thanks to Post 81 and Post 117 for your hospitality. Thanks to Lehigh Acres Post 323 for hosting Detachment Commander Nigbor's Homecoming. What a great time and great fun that was. Congratulations, Commander, on a fantastic year.

I cannot stress enough the importance of getting your end-of-year reports sent in. Thanks to all who made the effort. This is how we prove that what we do makes a difference. By now you should have had your elections, and I am sure your new officers are excited to get going for the coming year. Please do not forget to get your SIR, Squadron Information Report forms sent in. This form is where your **myLegion.org** permissions are determined. Once you know who next year's officers are, get them in as soon as possible.

The competition between District 6 and District 12 continues to Convention. **Andy Campbell, District 12 Commander**, is running away with the lead over **District 6 Commander Sonny Perchitti!** As of 5/07/26, **District 12 is 103.43% to District 6 at 97.74%**. Great Job! Congratulations, Andy on your hard work and achieving 100%. Eastern Area is in 4th place at 100.93%. If we are going to get Commander Nigbor to his 30,000 Member goal, we must all work to get him there. Let's do all we can to *help Commander Nigbor reach this milestone.*

Congratulations to **District 6 Sonny Perchitti** and **District 12 Gary Raymond** on your election to **District Commander** for the 2026-2027 year. Good luck to you and your officers in the coming year. Andy Campbell, it has been a pleasure working with you as District 12 Commander and I wish you luck as you take on the next step in your career. Any help I can be, I am only a phone call away.

Detachment Convention is just around the corner, Thursday June 11th to Sun June 14th at Hilton Orlando Buena Vista, 1751 Hotel Plaza Blvd, Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Check floridalegion.org for more information and alternative hotels. Or just come for the day. I look forward to Peter Puzzo's training on Thursday beginning at 1:00 PM. Hope to see many of you there.

For God and Country,
Danny Roe
Vice Commander Eastern Area
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida

SONS OF THE
AMERICAN
LEGION

Detachment
of Florida



SAM ALOI

9TH DISTRICT VICE COMMANDER

district9vc@floridasons.org



Greetings from the Mighty 9th District!

As of this article half of our posts have had their elections. Congratulations to ALL the New officers and the re-elected!

I picked a poem this month to help us understand why we don't walk between the colors - it was written by a Past Department of Florida Commander. Please take a moment to read it.

For God and Country,
Sam Aloï

9th District Vice Commander
Member of the MT&D Committee
Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of Florida

AMERICAN LEGION

This Is Hallowed Ground

Why You Don't Walk Between The Colors

Between the flags that proudly fly
Let no one dare to stand
For here our fallen comrades lie,
We call it Hallowed Ground.
A symbol, yes, but mark it well;
Here let us ever humbly pause
In Memory of the ones who fell
In fighting for our sacred cause.

On sea or land these buddies died.
Some lie beneath a foreign sod
In graves caressed by winds and tide,
In spots unknown to all but God.
And so this place is Hallowed Ground,
And it shall be forever blessed,
As though it were a grassy mound
Beneath which gallant heroes rest

Be ever watchful, Legionnaire.
Of those two flags which signify
That we should guard this spot with care
Where our departed comrades lie.
And, if a man should dare to tread
This spot where lie our gallant brave,
He desecrates those noble dead
As tho he walked upon their grave.

— Nolle Deas
Past Florida Department Commander 1973-74



ROCKY CIRIGLIANO

INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION CHAIR

ia@floridasons.org



Greetings All,

The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Florida, is proud to announce its **54th Annual Convention**, scheduled for **June 11–14, 2026**, at the **Hilton Lake Buena Vista**.

This annual convention brings together members from across the state for fellowship, leadership development, and the opportunity to conduct the important business of our Detachment. Attendees can expect a full agenda that includes meetings, training opportunities, elections, **consideration of constitutional amendments**, and time to reconnect with fellow Sons in a welcoming and professional setting.

The Hilton Lake Buena Vista provides a convenient and comfortable venue, offering easy access to lodging, meeting spaces, and nearby attractions. Whether you are a first-time attendee or a seasoned convention participant, this event promises to be both productive and rewarding.

Additional details regarding proposed constitutional amendments, registration, schedules will be shared as they become available. Members are encouraged to mark their calendars now and plan to attend this important gathering. Network with your fellow SONS on what you are doing at your Squadrons, gain innovative ideas, and exchange pertinent information. We look forward to seeing you in June as we continue to strengthen our mission and support our Veterans, communities, and fellow members.

As a standing tradition, we include the Preamble to the Sons of The American Legion National Constitution in every Internal Affairs article. Members are encouraged to read and reflect on its powerful words. This is more than a statement, the foundation of why we serve.

Consider taking a minute at your next Squadron meeting to read the preamble together. Use it as a training tool and a reminder of the duty and sacrifice of the veterans who made our freedom possible.

PREAMBLE TO THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

PROUD POSSESSORS OF A PRICELESS HERITAGE, WE MALE DESCENDANTS OF VETERANS OF ALL WARS, ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER AS “SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION” FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America,
- to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism,
- to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in all wars,
- to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation,
- to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses,
- to make right the master of might,
- to promote peace and good will on earth,
- to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy,
- to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness,
- to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands,
- and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

For God and Country,
Rocky Cirigliano
Internal Affairs Commission Chairman
Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



DANNY ROE

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN

vchildrenyouth@floridasons.org



HELLO FROM YOUR CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN!

Here we are in June and what a busy couple of months it has been. A lot of picnics to raise money for Boys and Girls state transportation. Always keep an eye out for events in your area and support them if you can.

It has been a fantastic year as your Children and Youth Chair. I enjoyed meeting many of you and I hope to meet many more in the coming year.

Always keep me informed of any Children and Youth events you are having. It is my desire to attend and support as many local events as possible. I encourage you to post your events on social media and here in The Source. We had a great C&Y picnic this year at Post 117 on April 11th. It was a great day and a great turnout to celebrate our youth. Fun was had by all. Hope to see you there next year.



On May 16th we had our C&Y Golf Tournament, hosted by Lady Lake Post 347 Family. What a great time we had raising money for our Children and Youth Charities. I was honored to have our Commander Michael Nigbor on my team, and I am telling you, he can play. We were Honored to have Ryan Gallagher from COTA there as well. Checks will be presented at Convention to COTA and three other charities. Still counting, but over \$20,000 was raised. WOW, what a great day.



For God and Country,
Danny Roe

Chairman
Children & Youth Commission
Sons of The American Legion

(Children & Youth continued)



I am excited to see you all at Convention. If anyone would like to be a part of our C&Y Committee Breakout session, let me know or just join us when we break.

Please plan to support any upcoming Children & Youth events in your area. Feel free to contact me at childrenyouth@floridasons.org for any needs you may have and to invite me to your events.

For God and Country,

Danny Roe

Chairman
Children & Youth Commission
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Florida





BOB O'NEAL
VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHAB CHAIR
 var@floridasons.org



As we near the Convention this month, VA&R (Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation) reports have been forwarded to me to analyze with the Commission committee and report at Convention.

Congratulations to all the Squadrons who submitted reports; let's get all the Squadrons energized next year. Everyone has spent hours volunteering and needs to report them. It is important at the local level to recognize these hours, as well as at the Detachment and National levels.

The sad news is that only 27 squadrons have submitted reports up to the May 15 deadline (13.6%), of which only 17 have any data recorded. This organization runs on volunteers, and it goes beyond recognition; the Legion reports all these

For God and Country,
 Bob O'Neal

Chairman | Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission
 Sons of The American Legion
 Detachment of Florida



BOB O'NEAL
PROJECT: VETRELIEF COMMITTEE CHAIR
 pvr@floridasons.org



Project Vet Relief is a Florida-based initiative that provides emergency assistance and support services to veterans and their families facing financial hardships. Examples of financial assistance needs are shelter, food, utilities and emergency transportation.

The program is designed to help veterans navigate the challenges they face during their transition to civilian life and to assure they have access to the benefits they have earned through their service. The PVR tagline is ***"They fought for us. We fight for them"***

The initiative fosters a supportive community where Veterans can connect and help each other, reducing isolation and promoting mental health.

To determine eligibility for assistance, Veterans can go to <https://projectvetrelief.org>.

For God and Country,
 Bob O'Neal

Chairman | Project:VetRelief Committee
 Sons of The American Legion
 Detachment of Florida



PROJECT: VETRELIEF
 They Fought for Us. We Fight for Them.



Greetings from the MT&D Committee!

As this year winds down, it's time to look back on the 'developments' of 2025 in the area of Training. 3 Districts took advantage of our Training Programs. We held Sessions at the Fall Conference on Leadership, Area Vice Commander & District Commander Responsibilities, All Committees & Commissions addressed their goals & ideas, and we had some very good interaction amongst the attendees.

We have begun work on a Detachment Training Program that we, quite honestly, believe will be the next coming of the SAL University System. We completed a Chain of Command and Communication Guide for Squadron Usage. Info-Grams are being updated and provided by request.

With all of that going on, if your Squadron didn't hear about these things, it time to contact your District Officers and find out why. I have always believed that 'mandates' & 'regulations' flow from the top down, while training and responsibility flow from the ground upward. I have set my sights on 2026 as the next step in training our membership in what we are all about, where we have been, and where we are going. I will have some new MTD members this year, and I hope to get additional ideas and thoughts from them.

Last thought, as you elect your Squadron & District Officers, please give thought to what Training would be beneficial to them as well as you. Email me at mtd@floridasons.org anytime, and I will get back to you. If you have trouble emailing me, text me at 772-532-6511. Ensure to include your name, Squadron, District or Area. **GOOD LUCK & LET'S HIT THE GROUND RUNNING**

For God and Country, Pete Puzzo
Chairman | Member Training & Development Committee



As we approach the end of this year, I am sure everyone is working on their donations for our various projects. There was much discussion at the Fall Conference on keeping our donations within the state and the reasons behind it. Please know that we are not telling you that you cannot donate to whoever your Squadron chooses to. We just wanted to provide information back to you on how our funds are being used.

Detachment Commander Nigbor's Charity this year is the Children's Organ Transplant Association, or COTA for short. To date, you all have raised over \$20,000.00 for his program. I am certain more donations for COTA will be coming in at Convention in June.

Other Charities that we can donate to are Project Vet Relief (Funds stay in Florida). The Florida Children & Youth Fund, Florida Disaster Relief Fund, of which the SAL is eligible to receive Funds from, and Florida Special Olympics. All monies raised for these Charities stay in Florida.

On the National level there is the Child Well-Being Foundation (CWF), Operation Comfort Warriors, American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation, and the National Emergency Relief Fund (NEF) of which the SAL is not eligible to receive funds from.

Please keep in mind that when you are writing checks for the various Charities, **PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE.....make the check payable to the Charity. DO NOT MAKE IT PAYABLE TO THE DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA.** If it is made payable to the Detachment, then we must deposit it into our account and then write a check out to the Charity it was intended for.

Expense Vouchers: Just want to address that receipts are needed for reimbursement, including tolls. If you expect to get reimbursed, the receipts must be legible as well. Only Mileage does not require a receipt and that is at .35 cents per mile.

For God and Country,
Ed Sheubrooks
Chairman | Detachment Finance Committee Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida



My Fellow SAL Members,

The Department of Florida made several changes and updates to their Constitution and By-Laws over the last couple of years which has necessitated that we conduct a review of our documents. Over the course of the last few months, I have reviewed all the information and began preparing the items in our Constitution and By-Laws that would need to be updated and more in line with the Department of Florida and to make sure our documents do not conflict.

There are numerous amendments that I am proposing to the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee and the Department of Florida were discussed when we met at the fall conference. These amendments were not be read in their entirety unless there are specifics that needed to be addressed with the membership or if requested by the membership until we get to the Detachment Convention where they will be voted upon. Each of these amendments will require a 2/3 vote of the Convention delegates present to be adopted and the changes to be made. These changes will become effective immediately upon approval.

Only one of these amendments is considered as an automatic update and that is the one that provides an update to the district boundaries for Districts 11 and 12. It is still published for everyone to understand the update. Be advised that this revision will not be updated in the document until after the 2026 Detachment Convention.

Please understand that these are updates to our Detachment Constitution and By-Laws and that everyone needs to be aware of the changes even though as of now none of these should impact our Squadrons. However, we want to make sure this information is shared with you so you can share amongst your members. This is the most amendments that we have had since our Detachment Constitution and By-Laws were first adopted in 1984.

Should you have any questions or comments, please attend the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee Meeting at our Fall Conference and the Detachment Convention. You may also contact me by email at **judgeadvocate@floridasons.org** or by phone at **(863) 559-1748**.

All amendments have been sent out to the Detachment Executive Committee, which includes the Area Vice Commanders, District Commanders and District Vice Commanders. The all have been charged with making sure each squadron receives a copy of the amendments for review. Additionally, they have been posted to our website, You can view each on in its entirety by visiting <https://floridasons.org/cbl-amendments/>.

THESE AMENDMENTS WILL ALSO APPEAR AT THE VERY END OF THIS NEWSLETTER. THESE WILL REMAIN IN 'THE SOURCE' UP UNTIL OUR ANNUAL DETACHMENT CONVENTION IN JUNE. PLEASE READ THESE AMENDMENTS AND SHARE WITH OTHERS IN YOUR SQUADRON.

PLEASE NOTE THAT A COUPLE OF THE RESOLUTIONS HAVE CHANGED. PLEASE TAKE TIME TO REVIEW ALL OF THESE PRIOR TO CONVENTION NEXT MONTH.

Thank you for what you do and for helping to keep The Source focused on what we do and who we are!

For God and Country,
James K Roberts III
Judge Advocate
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Florida



WE NEED YOUR HELP! Since last month, I've added **144 NEW MEMBERS** subscribe to our mailing list! That's a nice addition, but still only equals 738 out of 27,945 new/renewed members - **just 2.64% of our membership. How did this happen?** I added/sent innovations to those who included the information in their submitted SIRs. Squadrons can submit lists of email addresses to me as they sign up new members - it only takes a minute to copy their address. As you have read in this edition, **WE NEED TO IMPROVE OUR COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN OUR DETACHMENT.** Please do what you can to help!

We also rely on our email group to distribute membership reports and other vital updates. But with such a small portion of our membership receiving these communications - and with some of those subscribers being Legion and Auxiliary members or SAL members from other states - the actual percentage is even lower. This has led many of us to question whether maintaining the email group and investing the time to create a monthly newsletter is truly worth the effort.

I ask everyone reading this, including Legion and Auxiliary members, to print out QR Code toward the end of this newsletter and display it in your Post. Help YOUR Sons of the American Legion extend the reach of their communications.

Again, my goal this year is to have every Area Commander, District Commander and Committee and Commission Chairman submitting articles every month. Ideally, I'd like Squadrons submitting articles regularly as well. 'The Source' is **FOR EVERYBODY**, not just Detachment Leadership.



EMAIL GROUP SUBSCRIPTION PROGRESS METER 6/1/26

The due date for submitting articles for 'The Source' is **the 15th of each month.** This will keep us inline with the Department of Florida and their publication of '[The Legion Link](#)'. Additionally, we're working with Department to aid in distribution to their members that receive 'The Legion Link'. **The more people we can cover with our information will make us stronger.**

Please submit your articles and event flyers so that we can continue to bring you this important information. Event flyers will run every month until the event is complete. If any of your fellow members do not get **The Source** delivered via email feel free to share it with them and encourage them to sign-up on the mailing list. Subscription is easy and free. Simply join the [Detachment of Florida Mailing List](#).

The Source can only continue to be a viable and vital tool with your help and involvement.

In an effort to provide the easiest access to important forms and information, we've compiled this quick reference list of links for you:

- [Detachment of Florida Website](#)
- [Squadron Administration Manual](#)
- [All Squadron Report Forms](#)
- [Squadron Membership Report](#)
- [District Membership Report](#)
- [Detachment Email List Subscription](#)
- [Article Submission Form for The Source](#)

THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DO AND FOR HELPING TO KEEP THE SOURCE FOCUSED ON WHAT WE DO AND WHO WE ARE!

For God and Country,
Christian M Rapp
Editor of 'The Source', the Detachment of Florida Newsletter

OFFICE OF:	CANDIDATE
DETACHMENT COMMANDER	MICHAEL NIGBOR SQUADRON 303 – BONITA SPRINGS
DETACHMENT VICE COMMANDER WEST	
DETACHMENT VICE COMMANDER NORTH	DENTON 'SHAY' WOODS SQUADRON 77 – INVERNESS
DETACHMENT VICE COMMANDER EAST	ANDY CAMPBELL SQUADRON 117 – PALM BAY
DETACHMENT VICE COMMANDER CENTRAL	ERIC RIKANSRUD SQUADRON 138 – TAMPA
DETACHMENT VICE COMMANDER SOUTHWEST	
DETACHMENT VICE COMMANDER SOUTH	MICHAEL MATHIAS SQUADRON 164 – BOYNTON BEACH SAM ALOI SQUADRON 321 – COOPER CITY
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN <small>2 YEAR APPOINTMENT</small>	GERARD SAMBETS SQUADRON 275 – DUNEDIN
ALT NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN <small>2 YEAR APPOINTMENT</small>	
DETACHMENT CHAPLAIN	RAYMOND LEVENTHAL SQUADRON 323 – LEHIGH ACRES
DETACHMENT HISTORIAN	
DETACHMENT SEARGENT-AT-ARMS	KEN ARRANT SQUADRON 119 – LARGO JAMES REED SQUADRON 22 – INDIAN RIVER

DISTRICT COMMANDERS

DISTRICT VICE COMMANDERS

DISTRICT 1		
DISTRICT 2		
DISTRICT 3	BRIAN WOLFE SQUADRON 383 – OLD TOWN	
DISTRICT 4	STEVE MCKIM SQUADRON 77 – INVERNESS	
DISTRICT 5		
DISTRICT 6		
DISTRICT 7		
DISTRICT 8	RICHARD BUTLER SQUADRON 113 – ROTONDA WEST	GERALD SPICHER SQUADRON 74 – SEBRING
DISTRICT 9	MARTIN KRAEMER SQUADRON 310 – HALLANDALE BEACH	
DISTRICT 11		
DISTRICT 12	GARY RAYMOND SQUADRON 394 – PALM BAY	
DISTRICT 13	MITCHELL PACE SQUADRON 323 – LEHIGH ACRES	CHRISTOPHER ELLSWORTH SQUADRON 323 – LEHIGH ACRES
DISTRICT 14		
DISTRICT 15	LARRY KORDOSKY SQUADRON 138 – TAMPA	VICTOR 'SCOTT' KELLY SQUADRON 138 – TAMPA
DISTRICT 16		
DISTRICT 17		

This listing as well as guidelines for endorsements can be found on the Detachment website at:

<https://floridasons.org/detachment-officer-endorsements/>

All endorsements must be sent to the Detachment Adjutant at adjutant@floridasons.org

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
 DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
 54TH ANNUAL CONVENTION AGENDA



This is a tentative schedule with meeting locations. Locations and times are subject to change.

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2026

1:00pm – 4:00pm	Delegate Registration	Grand 5-8
1:00pm – 4:00pm	MT&D Training Sessions Committee & Commission Discussion & Recruitment • Event Planning & Reporting Hands-on Exercises • myLegion.org Training	
6:30pm – 8:30pm	2026 Legion Family Kick-Off Party Celebrate our convention with free beer, wine, and refreshments while supplies last. A cash bar will be available. DJ MJ will provide music. All American Legion Family members are invited to attend.	Poolside

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026

8:00am - 4:00pm	Delegate Registration	Grand 5-8
8:00am – 8:45am	Detachment Executive Committee Meeting (DEC) <i>All Detachment Officers, Past Detachment Commanders, District Commanders & Elected District Vice Commanders MUST ATTEND</i> <i>ALL MEMBERS OF THE DETACHMENT ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND</i>	Grand 5-8
9:00am – 10:15am	Opening Session	Grand 5-8
10:15am – 12:00pm	Detachment Commission and Committee Meetings	Grand 5-8
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch Break ** Tentative **	
1:00pm – 5:00pm	Session Resumes Committee and commission reports and awards. Session resumes Saturday, June 15 at 8:30pm	Grand 5-8

SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 2026

8:30am - 12:00pm	Delegate Registration	Grand 5-8
8:30am	Session Resumes Memorial service, completion of committee and commission reports, general business, area caucuses	Grand 5-8
11:30am - 12:00pm	Area Caucuses	Grand 5-8
12:00pm - 1:00pm	Lunch Break ** Tentative **	
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Election and Installation of Detachment Officers	Grand 5-8
2:15pm - 3:00pm	Post Detachment Executive Committee Meeting (DEC) <i>All Detachment Officers, Past Detachment Commanders, District Commanders & Elected District Vice Commanders MUST ATTEND</i> <i>ALL MEMBERS OF THE DETACHMENT ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND</i>	Grand 5-8
3:00pm – 5:00pm	Leadership Workshop / Ambassador Instruction <i>All Committee & Commission Chairs as well as Detachment Officers, Area Commanders, District Commanders & Elected Commanders MUST ATTEND</i>	Grand 5-8

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2026

8:30am - 9:00pm	Religious Service	Palm 1-2
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HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Each member has access to many benefits including the National Emergency Fund if a natural disaster should occur. However, your dues have to be current at the National Organization for you to be eligible for this and many other benefits.

Remember, your dues also help support Squadron Programs, the Child Welfare Foundation, National Emergency Fund, Operation Comfort Warriors, Fisher House and many more.

Without your support we cannot continue to support the great programs of the American Legion Family. Please follow up with your Squadron Membership Chairman to pay your dues and ensure they are transmitted for the current year.

Having an Event? Let the Detachment of Florida Help!

Attention all Sons of the American Legion

If your Squadron, Post Family, District or Area are having an event, we can help get the word out.

If you are interested in getting your event published and promoted using:

- The Detachment of Florida's Website (floridasons.org)
- The Detachment of Florida's Facebook page (facebook.com/FloridaSAL)
- The Detachment of Florida's Newsletter, The Source

There's only one thing you have to do: Let Us Know!

Visit the Detachment of Florida's online events calendar at

<https://floridasons.org/detachment-events-calendar/>, and click the button labeled 'Click Here To Submit Your Event'.

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Florida

Department Headquarters
PO Box 547859
Orlando, FL 32854
(407) 295-2631

Detachment Adjutant
Christian Rapp
215 Greenwood Ave
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936-1452
adjutant@floridasons.org

The Florida Sons of The American Legion with over 185 Squadrons and over 25,000 members this year donated hundreds of thousands of dollars and hours to the many programs of The American Legion Family.

***For More Information about the
Florida Sons of The American Legion,
visit us on the Internet at:***

www.floridasons.org
Or e-mail us at floridasons@floridasons.org

Source Articles

Scan the QR Code below to
visit our website

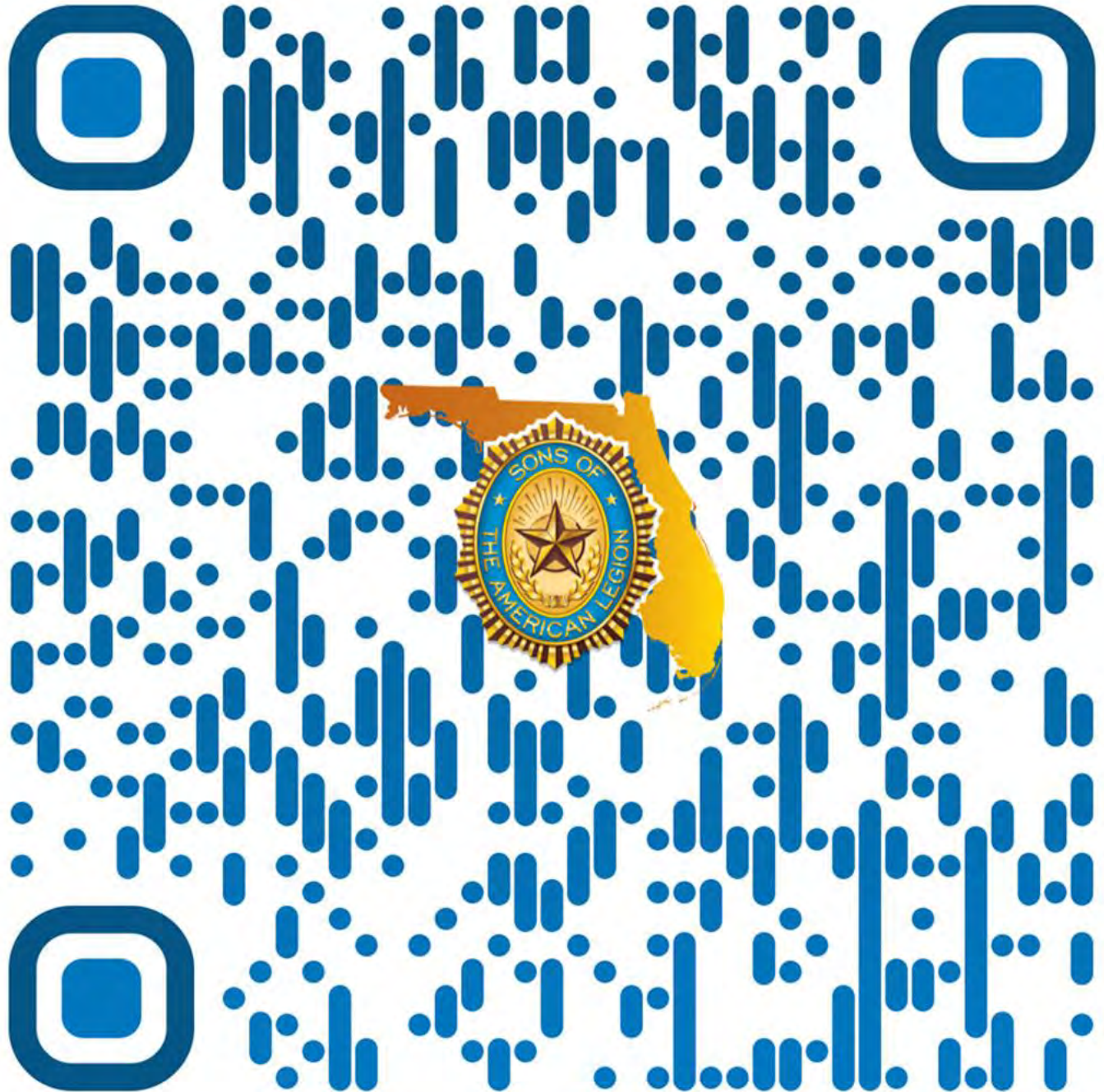


We are looking for your input and help to keep this newsletter going. We are looking for articles from the Squadrons, Districts, or Areas. Let us know what is happening in your Squadron, District & Area and we will inform the rest of the Detachment. It could increase attendance at your functions and or meetings!!!! This is your newsletter. ***Please send all articles to the Editor by the 15th of every month.***

The official way to submit articles for publication in The Source is to simply click here.

STAY INFORMED!

JOIN THE DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA EMAIL GROUP!



SCAN THIS CODE AND CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR
A CONFIRMATION MESSAGE. IT'S **THAT** EASY!

THE DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA VALUES YOUR PRIVACY.
WE WILL NEVER GIVE OR SELL YOUR INFORMATION TO ANOTHER PARTY.

[HTTPS://GROUPS.GOOGLE.COM/FORUM/#!FORUM/FLORIDA-SONS/JOIN](https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/florida-sons/join)

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article V Detachment Convention, Section 2

Section 2 - **In the event it becomes impractical because of travel restrictions lawfully imposed by the State or National Government to hold the Annual Department Convention at the time or place designated, or if by lawful authority of the State or National Government attendance at the convention would be limited to less than the number of authorized delegates, then the place, the time, and the manner, of holding the Annual Department Convention during such emergency shall be determined by the Department Executive Committee.**

If approved all subsequent sections will change in sequence.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~striketrough~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<hr/> <p>DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p>PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-01</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

AMENDMENT

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article VII Detachment Executive Committee, Section 1

Section 1 - Between Detachment Conventions the executive power of the Detachment shall be vested in the Detachment Executive Committee, which shall consist of the following: The Detachment Commander, the Detachment Vice Commanders **(6)**, **the National Executive Committeeman, the National Executive Committeeman Alternate**, the District Commanders **(16)**, ~~one (1)~~ **the elected** District Vice Commanders **(16)** ~~from each District~~, the Detachment Adjutant, the Detachment Finance Officer, the Detachment Judge Advocate, the Detachment Historian, the Detachment Chaplain, the Detachment Sergeant-At-Arms, and all Past Detachment Commanders.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<p>DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p>PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-02</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article VII Detachment Executive Committee, Section 7

Section 7 - The Detachment Executive Committee shall have power to fill vacancies in any Detachment Office or in the Detachment Executive Committee until the next **Detachment** Convention, except as is herein otherwise provided; provided that any such vacancy occurring between meetings of the Detachment Executive Committee may be filled by appointment by the Detachment Commander subject to ratification ~~or disapproval~~ by the Detachment Executive Committee **to occur within 30 days of said appointment.** ~~at its next meeting,~~ **Such ratification may be conducted utilizing methods in accordance with the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Florida Constitution, Article VII, Section 13.** ~~and~~ If the Detachment Executive Committee disapproves the appointment by the Detachment Commander, the Detachment Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy until the next Convention.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<p>_____ DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p>PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-05</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article VII Detachment Executive Committee, Section 8

Section 8 - The Detachment Executive Committee shall meet within 24 hours after the Detachment Officers, **as provided in Article VI of this Constitution,** ~~as provided in Article VI hereof,~~ and also shall convene in special meeting when called for the purpose stated in Section 7 of this Article, and immediately preceding the holding of a Detachment Convention, regular or special; and meet at such other times as ~~in the By Laws may be provided~~ necessary.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____	DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-06</u>
FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____	
FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____	
CONSOLIDATED WITH _____	
OTHER ACTION _____	
SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)	

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article IX District Organization, Section 1

This provision outlines the boundaries for the Districts as amended by The American Legion Department of Florida within their Constitution. As a result, this is an automatic revision to the Detachment Constitution.

Section 1 - The Detachment shall be divided into Districts bounded as follows: District 1: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Bay, Escambia, Holmes, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton and Washington. District 2: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Leon, Liberty and Wakulla. District 3: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Baker, Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison, Suwanee and Taylor. District 4: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Gilchrist, Levy, Marion and Union. District 5: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns. District 6: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Sumter. District 7: This District shall embrace all of Polk County and that portion of Pasco County East of Interstate 75 (The American Legion Highway). District 8: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Sarasota, Manatee, Highlands, DeSoto and Hardee. District 9: This District shall embrace all of Broward County. District 11: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Palm Beach, Okeechobee and Clewiston from Hendry County and Indiantown from Martin County **and that part of Martin County south of the St. Lucie River**. District 12: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Brevard, Indian River, Martin (except for Indiantown **and that part of Martin County south of the St. Lucie River**) and St. Lucie. District 13: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry (except Clewiston) and Lee. District 14: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Miami-Dade and Monroe. District 15: This District shall embrace all of Hillsborough County, that portion of Pasco County, except New Port Richey, Hudson, Holiday, and Seven Springs West of Interstate 75 (The American Legion Highway), and all of Hernando County. District 16: This District shall embrace all of Pinellas County and New Port Richey, Hudson, Holiday and Seven Springs from West Pasco County. District 17: This District shall embrace the following Counties: Flagler, Putnam and Volusia.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____ FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____ FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____ CONSOLIDATED WITH _____ OTHER ACTION _____ SIGNATURE _____ <div style="text-align: center;">(CHAIRMAN)</div>	<hr/> DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-08</u>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article IX District Organization, Section 3

Section 3 - When a vacancy in the office of District Commander occurs in any District, the Detachment Commander shall appoint his successor **as provided in Article VII, Section 7, of this Constitution.**

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<hr/> <p>DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p>PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-09</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article X Squadron Organization, Section 9

Section 9 - Such charter may be suspended or revoked by the Detachment Executive Committee for the reasons and in the manner provided in Article VII, **Section 10 of this Constitution** hereof.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-10</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article XI Finance, Section 3

Section 3 - The annual dues, both National and Detachment, shall be collected by each Squadron or Post and transmitted within thirty (30) days after receipt to the ~~Department Finance Officer~~ **Department Headquarters and/or National Headquarters, as appropriate.**

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strikethrough~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____	DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-12</u>
FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____	
FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____	
CONSOLIDATED WITH _____	
OTHER ACTION _____	
SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)	

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article XI Finance, Section 7

Section 7 - There shall be a **Financial Review** ~~complete audit~~ of the finances, accounts, property and business affairs of the Detachment **made annually** at the same time as the Department of Florida ~~has its audit, in the same manner as provided in the Department Constitution, Article XII, Section 7.~~

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strikethrough~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____	DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-13</u>
FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____	
FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____	
CONSOLIDATED WITH _____	
OTHER ACTION _____	
SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)	

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment Constitution, Article XII Delegates to the National Convention, Section 1

Section 1 - Representation at the Sons of The American Legion National Convention shall be as follows:

- (a)** Delegates and Alternates nominated by the District Conferences as provided in Article IX **of this Constitution**, and elected at the next Convention.
- (b)** The **Immediate** Past Detachment Commander, by virtue of his office, shall ~~automatically~~ be a Delegate to the National Convention, and shall be the Chairman of the Delegation. ~~In the event the Immediate Past Detachment Commander cannot attend, the delegation will elect a chairman.~~
- (c)** The Detachment Adjutant, **by virtue of his office**, shall be an ~~Alternate~~ delegate to the Chairman of the Delegation to the National Convention and shall be the Secretary ~~to~~ **of** the Delegation.
- (d) The Detachment Commander, by virtue of his office, shall be a Delegate to the National Convention. In the event the Immediate Past Detachment Commander cannot attend, the Detachment Commander shall be the Chairman of the Delegation.**
- (e) The National Executive Committeeman and the Alternate National Executive Committeeman, by virtue of their office, shall be delegates to the National Convention.**
- (f) All current National Officers (elected or appointed), by virtue of their office, shall be delegates to the National Convention.**
- (g) All current National Commission and Committee Chairmen and members, by virtue of their office, shall be delegates to the National Convention.**
- (h) All Past National Commanders, by virtue of their office, shall be delegates to the National Convention.**
- (i) All other Delegates and Alternates to which the Detachment is entitled, after the Districts have been allotted their quota, shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Delegation.**

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strikethrough~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____ FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____ FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____ CONSOLIDATED WITH _____ OTHER ACTION _____ SIGNATURE _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 5px;">(CHAIRMAN)</div>	<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-14</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment By-Laws, Article I Detachment Convention, Section 12

Section 12 – Each officer to be elected at the Detachment Convention shall be voted on separately except that the election of the Detachment Vice Commanders may be elected collectively, **and the District Commanders, and District Vice Commanders may be ratified collectively.**

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~striketrough~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____	DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-17</u>
FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____	
FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____	
CONSOLIDATED WITH _____	
OTHER ACTION _____	
SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)	

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment By-Laws, Article I Detachment Convention, Section 13

Section 13 – The final official tally sheets and the ballots shall be retained as permanent record of the Detachment for a period of two (2) years. **To be elected, a candidate must receive a majority of the votes cast.**

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strikethrough~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____	DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-18</u>
FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____	
FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____	
CONSOLIDATED WITH _____	
OTHER ACTION _____	
SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)	

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment By-Laws, Article II Detachment Executive Committee, Section 5

Section 5 – Detachment and District Officers may be reprimanded, suspended, or removed from office on charges based upon disloyalty to Sons of The American Legion or the National Government, neglect of duties, dishonesty, and conduct unbecoming a member or officer of Sons of The American Legion. All charges shall be made in writing by an accuser, and no officer shall be reprimanded, suspended, or removed from office until given a fair trial. The charge shall be filed forthwith at Detachment Headquarters and shall be referred to the Detachment Executive Committee by the senior qualified Detachment Officer not under charge. A copy of said charge shall be served on the accused officer. Within thirty (30) days thereafter the Detachment Executive Committee shall convene in special session on call of the senior qualified Detachment officer not under charge and shall try the charges against the accused officer. The accused officer shall have the right to appear in person and defend himself and may be attended by any member of the Florida Detachment of the Sons of The American Legion, **Detachment of Florida**, in good standing **or a Florida licensed attorney, or both**, as counsel. The Detachment Judge Advocate, if available and qualified, shall prosecute the charges, and if the Detachment Judge Advocate ~~be~~ **is** unavailable or fail to act or be disqualified, the senior qualified Detachment Officer not under charge shall appoint some member of the Detachment to prosecute the charge. The decision of the Detachment Executive Committee may be acquittal, reprimand, removal from office, or suspension, and shall be forthwith reported to the next Detachment Convention. The Detachment Convention, except in the case of an acquittal by the Detachment Executive Committee, may affirm, modify, or revoke the finding and sentence of the Detachment Executive Committee. The Detachment Convention shall conduct its hearing upon the transcribed testimony heard by the Detachment Executive Committee or oral testimony, or both. In case of acquittal the decision of the Detachment Executive Committee shall be final, and its decision in any event shall be final unless **written** appeal be made to the **Annual** Detachment Convention within forty-five (45) days, and in event of appeal to the Detachment Convention its decision shall be final. Pending the appeal from a conviction, the ~~accused~~ **convicted** Officer shall not act in an official capacity as a member of Sons of The American Legion, ~~of the Detachment of Florida~~.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strikethrough~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____ FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____ FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____ CONSOLIDATED WITH _____ OTHER ACTION _____ SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)	DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-19</u>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment By-Laws, Article III Duties of Officers, Section 1

Section 1 – **Detachment Commander** – The Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander ~~is the executive head~~ **shall be the principal representative** of the organization **Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Florida**, at his level with full power to carry out the mandates and policies of the Sons of The American Legion as approved by The American Legion. He shall be the Chairman of the Detachment Convention and Detachment Executive Committee and shall appoint all Detachment Commission and Committee chairmen and members **as directed and authorized by these By-Laws and the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Florida**, thereof, subject to ratification of the Detachment ~~Executive Committee~~. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<p>_____ DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p>_____ PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-20</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment By-Laws, Article III Duties of Officers, Section 9

Section 9 – **Detachment Assistant Judge Advocate** – When authorized by the Detachment Executive Committee, the Detachment Assistant Judge Advocate shall assist the Detachment Judge Advocate with his duties including construction of the Detachment and interpretation of the **National**, Detachment, and ~~National~~ **Squadron** Constitution & By-Laws. ~~and shall perform such other duties as are incident to the office.~~ In the event the Detachment Judge Advocate is unable to fulfill his duties, the Assistant Judge Advocate shall perform those duties until the return or restoration of the ability of the Detachment Judge Advocate. The Detachment Assistant Judge Advocate shall file a copy of all opinions rendered by him with the Detachment Adjutant and the Detachment Judge Advocate.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<p>_____ DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p>_____ PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-24</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment By-Laws, Article III Duties of Officers, Section 14

Section 14 – **District Commanders** – The District Commanders shall be the representative of the Detachment Commander on all matters referred to him, in his District and as outlined in Article IX of the Detachment Constitution. Additionally, the District Commander serves on the Detachment Executive Committee as a representative of his respective District.

- (a) It shall be the duty of the District Commander at all times to cooperate with officers of the Squadrons in his District.
- (b) The District Commander shall visit each Squadron in his District at least twice each year.
- (c) The District Commander shall lend his best efforts to stimulate growth; to investigate all new applications of new Squadron Charters and to recommend the granting or refusal of such application to the Detachment Executive Committee; to recommend the revocation of existing charters for good and sufficient reasons; to encourage the revitalization of weak Squadrons into strong and representative Squadrons; to promote inter-Squadron activities; to promote a spirit of cooperation among the Squadrons in his District for the development of the principles of Sons of The American Legion.
- (d) The District Commander or his designated representative shall install the Squadron Officers of all Squadrons in his District.

(e) The District Commander shall perform any other duties the Detachment Commander, their Detachment Vice Commander, the Detachment Executive Committee, and the Constitution and By-Laws may assign.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

<p>APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____</p> <p>FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____</p> <p>FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____</p> <p>CONSOLIDATED WITH _____</p> <p>OTHER ACTION _____</p> <p>SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)</p>	<hr/> <p>DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT</p> <p>PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-26</u></p>
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
DETACHMENT OF FLORIDA
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The amendment below was submitted by the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws Committee in a regular meeting dated Saturday, November 22, 2025.



SIGNATURE DETACHMENT CBL COMMITTEE CHAIR

INSTRUCTIONS

This form must be filled out in triplicate.

Proposals must arrive in Detachment Headquarters no later than forty (40) days prior to Detachment Convention.

A M E N D M E N T

Amendment to the Detachment By-Laws, Article V Membership Arrears and Dues, Section 1

Section 1 – Applications for Squadron membership shall be verified by the **Post Adjutant or** designated officials of the sponsoring Post of The American Legion having jurisdiction over the squadron.

Note: Additions to the original text shown by bold underline
Deletions to the original text are shown by ~~strike through~~

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED _____ REJECTED _____ FOR DETACHMENT ACTION _____ FOR NATIONAL ACTION _____ CONSOLIDATED WITH _____ OTHER ACTION _____ SIGNATURE _____ (CHAIRMAN)	_____ DATE RECEIVED BY DETACHMENT PROPOSAL NUMBER <u>2026-27</u>
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