

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA**

General Orders No. 7

2025-2026 Series

1. The Veterans of Foreign Wars name and insignia, including but not limited to official caps, shirts, jackets, patches, emblems, or any other garments or items identifying affiliation with the VFW, shall not be worn at rallies, protests, demonstrations, court proceedings, or events supporting or opposing individuals or entities involved in alleged criminal activity, legal proceedings or other sensitive public controversies. This expectation also extends to social media activity in which members should refrain from posting photographs, videos, comments, or other content on social media platforms. Any member choosing to attend such events or support these activities must do so strictly in a personal capacity and shall not reference, imply, or otherwise represent the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in any manner.

Even when attending in a purely personal capacity, the presence of VFW identifiable material can create the public perception that the organization itself is endorsing or opposing a particular cause or position which is strongly discouraged. The VFW is a nonpartisan organization and maintaining that neutrality is essential to preserving our credibility, unity, and standing in the communities we serve. Each of us retains the right to express personal views as private citizens; we simply ask that members do so without the use of VFW-identifying attire or insignia.

2. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure, which provides that each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials and one identified registered delegate for the National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10) delegate fee. Posts are encouraged to register their Post delegate(s) online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or by submitting their National Convention Post and Delegate Registration form that will be mailed to all Posts as part of the Election Report/Convention Registration mailing going out later this month. Registration forms for the 127th National Convention may be mailed to: Convention Registration, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.
3. Attention is directed to Section 217 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure covering the nomination, election and installation of Post Officers. Post Election Report forms are being mailed to Post Quartermasters with instructions that they complete the form online through the Online Membership System (OMS) or they can complete the form and return directly to National Headquarters immediately following the election of Post Officers but not later than June 1.
4. Section 222 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure provides that delegates and alternates for the District Convention and meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Posts are entitled to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each thirty (30) members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post as of March 31.
5. Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws and the Manual of Procedure, each District shall hold an annual District Convention for the purpose of electing District officers, such convention to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convening of the Department Convention.

Pursuant to Section 403 of the National Bylaws – Regular Meeting, Districts shall hold at least two (2) regular meetings each year for purposes of transacting business and conducting schools of instruction.

Pursuant to Section 417 of the National Manual of Procedure, District officers shall not assume the duties of their office until the Department Commander is installed.

District officers shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted and reviewed in accordance with Section 416 of the Manual of Procedure.

6. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218 (a)(11) of the National Manual of Procedure, Officers: Duties and Obligations. Trustees Report of Audit must be prepared in detail within thirty (30) days from the end of each quarter, one of which ends March 31.



Kevin "Scott" Hice
State Commander

ATTEST:



John L. Coleman
State/Adjutant/Quartermaster