KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO
AMERICA'S VETERANS

National Constitution, Bylaws & NEC Regulations

National Convention
Orlando, Florida
August 1–4, 2026



NATIONAL ADJUTANT
Barry Jesinoski

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
860 Dolwick Drive
Erlanger, KY 41018
859-441-7300

WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS
1300 I Street NW, Suite 400 West
Washington, DC 20005
202-554-3501

WEBSITE
dav.org

NATIONAL OFFICERS 2026–2027

National Commander . . . . . John Donovan
Sr. Vice Commander . . . . . Jim Procunier
1st Jr. Vice Commander. . . . . Glenn Hohman
2nd Jr. Vice Commander. . . . . .Brenda Reed
3rd Jr. Vice Commander . . . . . Adam Greathouse
4th Jr. Vice Commander . . . . . Denice Williams
National Judge Advocate . . . . . Michael E. Dobmeier
National Chaplain . . . . . Debra Varner Dancer
Past National Commander. . . . . Coleman Nee

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NEC 1st District . . . . . Debora Olson
NEC 2nd District . . . . . .Thomas Wahlrab
NEC 3rd District . . . . . Lisa Sloan
NEC 4th District. . . . . Ronnie Maebry
NEC 5th District. . . . . William Hines
NEC 6th District. . . . . Jorge Cruz
NEC 7th District. . . . . Thomas Ayala
NEC 8th District. . . . . Frederick Varnado
NEC 9th District. . . . . Willard Cunningham
NEC 10th District. . . . . Brian Fogg
NEC 11th District. . . . . James Bailey
NEC 12th District. . . . . Robert Hilliard
NEC 13th District. . . . . George Hall
NEC 14th District. . . . . Joe Hall
NEC 15th District. . . . . Jamie Jakub
NEC 16th District. . . . . Enrique Ramos
NEC 17th District. . . . . John Carmona
NEC 18th District. . . . . Carl Forkner
NEC 19th District. . . . . Vacant
NEC 20th District. . . . . Mickey Williams
NEC 21st District . . . . . Danny Oliver

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Coleman Nee, Chairman
Massachusetts

Jim Procunier, Vice Chairman
North Carolina

Barry Jesinoski, Secretary
Kentucky

Danny Oliver, Treasurer
Oklahoma

Joseph Hall, Director
North Dakota

Thomas Ayala, Director
Florida

Enrique Ramos, Director
California

John Donovan, Advisor
Arkansas

Michael E. Dobmeier, Advisor
North Dakota

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Constitution 1
Preamble 1
Article I — Name 1
Article II — Purpose 1
Article III — Membership 2
Article IV — Powers 2
Article V — Administration 3
Article VI — Legislation 3
Article VII — Executive 4
Article VIII — Auxiliaries 4
Article IX — Amendments 4

National Bylaws 5
Article 1 — Organization 5
Article 2 — Policy 5
Article 3 — National Convention 8
Article 4 — National Executive Committee 20
Article 5 — National Districts 22
Article 6 — Charters 23
Article 7 — National Officers 29
Article 8 — State Departments 35
Article 9 — Chapters 40
Article 10 — DAV Auxiliary and
Their Subordinate Units 44
Article 11 — Membership 47
Article 12 — National Employees 54
Article 13 — Board of Directors 55
Article 14 — National Finances 57
Article 15 — Sources of Income 61
Article 16 — Disciplinary Actions 67
Article 17 — Incorporations, Affiliations and
Other Associations 71

Article 18 — Accumulation of Funds 73
Article 19 — Miscellaneous 74

Regulations Of The National Executive Committee Disabled American Veterans. 77
Regulation 1: Charters 77
Regulation 2: Contracts for Fundraising 77
Regulation 3: Other Contracts. 79
Regulation 4: Bar, Lounge, Bingo or Thrift Operations. . 80
Regulation 5: Income from Fundraising 81
Regulation 6: Disciplinary Hearings and Appeals 81
Regulation 7: Accumulation of Funds 83
Regulation 8: Department Jurisdiction 84
Regulation 9: Non-Discrimination Policy of DAV 84
Regulation 10: Mission Statement of DAV 85
Regulation 11: Conflict of Interest Policy 85
Regulation 12: Reimbursement of Department and Chapter Losses 86
Regulation 13: Donor Intent Policy 88

Addresses for Ready Reference 89

Past National Commanders 97

National Adjutants 107

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

For God and Nation, and for our commonweal, we former members of the armed forces of the United States having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our country, holding in remembrance the sacrifices in common made and drawn together by strong bonds of respect and mutual suffering, solemnly and firmly associate ourselves together in creating the Disabled American Veterans, the principles and purposes of which shall be supreme allegiance to the United States of America, fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to hold aloft the torch of true patriotism; strive for a better understanding between nations that peace and goodwill may prevail; to cherish and preserve the memories of our military association; and to aid and assist worthy wartime disabled veterans, their widows, their orphans and their dependents.

Article I – Name

The name of this Organization shall be "Disabled American Veterans."

Article II – Purpose

To uphold and maintain the Constitution and the laws of the United States; to realize the true American ideals and aims for which those eligible to membership fought; to advance the interests and work for the betterment of all wounded, gassed, injured and disabled veterans; to cooperate with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and all other public and private agencies devoted to the

cause of improving and advancing the condition, health and interest of all wounded, gassed, injured and disabled veterans; to stimulate a feeling of mutual devotion, helpfulness and comradeship among all wounded, gassed, injured and disabled veterans; to serve our comrades, our communities and our country; and to encourage in all people that spirit of understanding which will guard against future wars.

Article III – Membership

Any man or woman who was wounded, gassed, injured or disabled in line of duty during time of war, while in the service of either the military or naval forces of the United States of America, and who has not been dishonorably discharged or separated from such service, or who may still be in active service in the armed forces of the United States of America is eligible for membership in the Disabled American Veterans. Others who are disabled while serving with any of the armed forces of any nations associated with the United States of America as allies during any of its war periods, who are American citizens and who are honorably discharged, are also eligible.

The Disabled American Veterans shall not have honorary members.

Article IV – Powers

To have perpetual succession, with power to sue and be sued in courts of law and equity; to receive, hold, own, use and dispose of such real estate and personal property as shall be necessary for its corporate purposes; to adopt a corporate seal and alter the same at pleasure; to adopt a constitution, bylaws and regulations to carry on its purposes,

not inconsistent with the laws of the United States or any state; to use, in carrying out the purposes of the corporation, such emblems and badges as it may adopt; to establish and maintain offices for the conduct of its business; to establish state and territorial organizations and local chapter or post organizations; to publish a newspaper or other publication devoted to the purposes of the corporation and generally to do any and all such acts and things as may be necessary and proper in carrying into effect the purposes of the corporation.

Article V – Administration

Section 1. The administrative affairs of this Organization shall be vested in a National Executive Committee, to be composed of the National Commander, Retiring National Commander, National Senior and Junior Vice Commanders and one National Executive Committeeman from each of the several National Districts, as they are now or may hereafter be composed and included in this organization.

Section 2. Each National Convention shall elect a National Commander, a National Senior Vice Commander, four National Junior Vice Commanders, a National Judge Advocate and a National Chaplain.

Section 3. No person shall succeed himself as National Commander.

Article VI – Legislation

The supreme legislative powers of this Organization shall be vested in a National Convention, which shall

be composed of the National Officers, representatives of the several territorial, state department and chapter organizations, which are now, or may be hereafter included in this Organization.

Article VII – Executive

The executive power of this Organization shall be vested in the National Commander.

Article VIII – Auxiliaries

This Organization recognizes the DAV Auxiliary as an auxiliary unit of the Disabled American Veterans, subject to its supervision and recommendations.

Article IX – Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any National Convention, by a majority vote of the regularly elected and qualified delegates thereat, if and when three-fourths of the several chapters then in existence and in good standing shall have ratified the proposed amendments, which ratifications must take place prior to the next National Convention.

Article 1 – Organization

Section 1.1 – Governing Bodies
The governing bodies of the Organization shall be the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, the state departments and chapters.

Section 1.2 – Records; Inspection
Each such body shall keep records of its proceedings which shall be open for inspection to any recognized officer of the Organization.

Article 2 – Policy

Section 2.1 – Statement of Policy
The Disabled American Veterans was founded on the principle that this nation's first duty is the rehabilitation and welfare of its wartime disabled. This principle envisions:

1. High quality hospital and medical care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans with disabilities incurred in or aggravated by service in America's armed forces.
2. Adequate compensation for the loss resulting from such service-connected disabilities.
3. Vocational rehabilitation and/or education to help the disabled veteran prepare for and obtain gainful employment.
4. Enhanced opportunities for employment and preferential job placement so that the remaining ability of the disabled veteran is used productively.

5. Adequate compensation to the surviving spouses and dependents of veterans whose deaths are held to be service-connected under laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
6. Enhanced outreach to ensure that all disabled veterans receive all benefits they have earned and that the American people understand and respect the needs these veterans encounter as a result of their disabilities.

We will not take any action on any resolution that proposes legislation designed to provide benefits for veterans, their surviving spouses and dependents, which are based upon other than wartime service-connected disability. We shall not oppose legislation beneficial to those veterans not classified as service-connected disabled, except when it is evident that such legislation will jeopardize benefits for service-connected disabled veterans. While our first duty as an organization is to assist the service-connected disabled, their surviving spouses and dependents, we shall within the limits of our resources assist others in filing, perfecting and prosecuting their claims for benefits.

Section 2.2 – Nonpartisanship

This Organization shall be non-political and non-sectarian and the name of this Organization or name of any subdivision thereof shall not be used in representing the desires or wishes of its membership in any political, sectarian or labor dispute, except as hereinafter provided. Provided, however, that the foregoing shall not prevent this Organization or any subdivision thereof from participating in political

issues which have a direct bearing upon the welfare of America's disabled veterans.

Section 2.3 – Legislative Activities

Para. 1: No member shall appear before any legislative body or speak in the name of this Organization or any subdivision thereof propounding a position contrary to any resolution then in effect with regard to such legislation, which resolution has been regularly adopted by the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, a department executive committee or state department.

Para. 2: No federal legislation shall be sponsored or endorsed by a National Officer or any member on behalf of or in the name of the DAV National Organization or any subordinate unit unless it has been approved by a National Convention or by the National Executive Committee, except as otherwise provided in Para. 3 of this Section.

Para. 3: In the absence of any mandate covering any matter wherein laws already enacted by Congress are under attack, the National Commander, National Adjutant and National Executive Committee are hereby placed under a continuing mandate by these Bylaws to resist and oppose any changes in laws or regulations advocated by any presidential commission, Executive Order, by special investigative commission created by Congress, or any legislative bill sponsored by any standing or special committee of Congress that would repeal or deprive disabled veterans or their dependents of benefits already provided by such laws or regulations. However, they may support those that are deemed by them to be beneficial to disabled veterans or their dependents.

Article 3 – National Convention

Section 3.1 – Supreme Power

The supreme power of the Organization is vested in a National Convention, to be attended in person by those members outlined in Section 3.4 of this Article.

Section 3.2 – Duration of Mandates

Mandates and resolutions adopted at each National Convention shall be effective only until the next National Convention.

Section 3.3 – Time and Place

Para. 1: A National Convention shall be held between June 30 and October 30, annually, unless prohibited by a national emergency.

Para. 2: The place where the Convention shall be held shall be determined by the National Executive Committee at least three years in advance, upon recommendations made to it by the National Adjutant. Invitations from delegations or cities must be submitted in advance to the National Adjutant in order for the National Adjutant and the national staff to examine the facilities and obtain the best offer for submission to the National Executive Committee.

Section 3.4 – Composition

The National Convention shall be composed of the elected National Officers, the past National Commanders, the National Executive Committee Members and the delegates and alternates representing the state departments and chapters of the Organization.

Section 3.5 – Registration Fee

Para. 1: The registration fee at National Convention shall be $35.00 for each delegate, alternate and visitor; and no person otherwise eligible shall be entitled to vote until he or she has registered and paid such fee.

Para. 2: Each chapter shall be assessed the following to be deposited in the National Convention Fund:

$30.00 — 100 members or less
$60.00 — 101 to 1,000 members
$90.00 — 1,001 to 3,000 members
$120.00 — 3,001 members or more

Para. 3: Following adjournment of the National Convention, and as soon as practical, a copy of the National Convention Proceedings will be posted on the National Organization's website.

Section 3.6 – Number of Delegates

Para. 1: Except as otherwise hereinafter specified, each state department shall be entitled to two delegates and two alternates and each chapter shall be entitled to one delegate and one alternate for its charter, and shall elect one delegate and one alternate for each fifty members or major portion thereof who are listed on the membership rolls of the National Headquarters at the close of the membership year ending June 30 immediately preceding the Convention; provided, however, that a chapter chartered since that date shall determine its membership, for the foregoing purpose, as of the first day of the month during which the Convention convenes. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event a state department or chapter is unable to fill all delegate or alternate offices to which it is entitled,

or in the event any delegation is entitled to cast more votes than the number of delegates present, then the votes to which it is entitled shall be divided equally among those present.

Para. 2: No person shall be entitled to vote or act as a delegate or alternate at the Convention unless he or she is a member in this Organization.

Section 3.7 – Election of Delegates; Credentials

Para. 1: Department delegates and alternates shall be elected by their delegates assembled at their department convention, or by the department executive committee prior to a Convention and shall be certified to the National Organization on forms provided by National Headquarters. Credentials shall be issued to departments by the National Headquarters. The form of such credentials shall be prescribed by the National Organization.

Para. 2: Chapter delegates and alternates shall be elected by their respective chapters prior to a Convention and shall be certified to the National Organization on forms provided by National Headquarters. Credentials shall be issued to chapters by National Headquarters. The form of such credentials shall be prescribed by the National Organization.

Section 3.8 – Voting

Para. 1: Each elected National Officer, each National Executive Committee Member, each Past National Commander and each state department and chapter delegate shall be entitled to one vote in the Convention, except as specified in Section 3.6, Para. 1.

Para. 2 (a): No delegate or alternate representing any state department or chapter which is indebted to the National Organization in any amount, except for supplies for current or future Forget-Me-Not sales, shall be seated or entitled to vote at the National Convention until such indebtedness has been paid.

(b): The National Adjutant shall render statements to all chapters and state departments, not less than thirty days before each National Convention, giving each chapter's or state department's indebtedness to the National Organization, and on payment of such amount the chapter or state department shall be considered clear of all indebtedness for purposes only of determining whether its delegates shall be entitled to vote at such Convention.

Para. 3: No delegate or alternate representing any state department or chapter whose charter has been suspended or revoked and has not been reinstated prior to the first business meeting of the Convention shall be entitled to vote.

Para. 4: No person shall cast a vote in the National Convention in more than one representative capacity, or be registered as a delegate from more than one chapter.

Para. 5: In the absence of any delegate, his or her vote shall be cast by his or her alternate.

Section 3.9 – Prohibition of Unit Rule and Proxy Voting

There shall be no form of unit rule, voting by proxy or voting by absentee ballot.

Section 3.10 – Rules of the Convention

Rule 1: Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, will govern except as hereafter specifically stated.

Rule 2: To be recognized, a delegate to the Convention must (1) stand, (2) address the chair as "Comrade Commander," (3) state his or her name and the chapter, state department, or his or her title, and (4) proceed only after recognition by the Chair.

Rule 3: Debate shall be limited to five minutes for each speaker, except by a two-thirds consent of the body.

Rule 4: Not more than two delegates from any one chapter delegation shall be permitted to discuss any one subject, except by a two-thirds consent of the body.

Rule 5: Recognition shall be granted only once to any one speaker on any one subject, except that a rebuttal of not more than three minutes may be permitted. Additional recognition may be granted by a two-thirds vote of the body.

Rule 6: No person who has talked for or against any motion, resolution or report on the Convention floor shall be permitted to make a motion to table it. A motion to table is not debatable and shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote of the body. A tabled motion may be taken from the table, for reconsideration, by a majority vote of the body.

Rule 7 (a): Resolutions from chapters and state departments must be submitted to and received at the office of the National Adjutant in electronic or printed form, signed by the sponsoring chapter or state department, not later than fourteen days prior to the opening of the National Convention.

(b): Resolutions sponsored by chapters must have the approval of the department executive committee or state convention, except where there is no state department, in which event resolutions may be submitted to National Headquarters for transmittal

to the Convention Committee on Assignment and Coordination.

Composition of Committees and Meetings

Rule 8 (a): Each Convention committee shall be composed of one member or alternate from each of the national districts.

(b): Each National Executive Committee Member shall on the day before the opening session of the Convention have posted the time and place of the first meeting of the delegates in such district. Such meeting may be held on the day prior to the opening session of the Convention but must be held no later than 8:00 a.m. on the first business day of the Convention. At such meeting the delegates in each district shall elect one member and one alternate for each Convention committee and shall not later than 10:00 a.m. on the first business day of the Convention advise the National Adjutant of such election; otherwise, the National Commander shall designate the membership of such committees. The National Commander, with the approval of the National Executive Committee, shall appoint no more than two advisors to each Convention committee, whose duties it shall be to call as soon as possible, and attend, the first meeting of such committee, and also to receive resolutions pertaining to such committee. Advisors will be assigned to each committee because of their knowledge of the subject matter under consideration. They may enter into committee discussions without the privilege of voting. They are subject to the call of the committee for advice and counsel. At the first meeting, the members of each Convention committee shall elect a chairman and a secretary by majority vote.

(c): The National Commander shall appoint a Committee on Assignment and Coordination at least forty-eight hours prior to the opening session of the Convention, and shall deliver all resolutions to such Committee for speedy reference to the appropriate Convention committee. Resolutions shall be delivered or referred to the appropriate Convention committee advisors by 8:00 a.m. on the first business day of the Convention, regardless of whether all districts have elected their members to Convention committees so long as a majority of the districts has elected its members to Convention committees. The Convention committees may meet, consider and act on resolutions starting with the first day of the Convention, regardless of whether all districts have elected their members to such committees so long as a majority of the districts have done so.

Rule 9 (a): No resolution can be discussed by the Convention until the same has been reported by a Convention committee, except by unanimous consent. Resolutions referred to, but not favorably reported by such committee, are in order and may be called up for consideration by proponents when a motion to discharge the committee has been made but before it has been acted upon. The Chair will advise the delegates when to make their request.

(b): If such resolution proposes to amend the Constitution or Bylaws, it may not be considered unless the proponent had it read at the time the resolutions favorably reported by the Convention Constitution and Bylaws Committee were read to the Convention in accordance with Section 3.10, Rule 21 (d).

Rule 10: Convention committees may originate such resolutions as they desire to sponsor, which pertain to the subject with which they are charged.

Rule 11: Each chapter delegation shall select a chairman who shall announce the vote of the delegation.

Rule 12: In viva voce voting on any subject before the Convention, no person shall participate except fully accredited delegates or alternates acting as delegates, who have registered and paid the registration fee. Visitors shall be segregated.

Rule 13: In case any delegation is entitled to cast more votes than the number of delegates present, the vote of those absent shall be cast in the same proportion as the votes of those present.

Rule 14: Voting shall be viva voce, except in the case of the election of national officers, and except when a roll call is demanded by the Chairman or Acting Chairman of the Convention, or by at least 25 delegation units, but not more than five from any one state department; provided, however, that the election of national officers may be made by viva voce when there is no contest. All roll calls shall be in alphabetical order by states in odd-numbered years, and in reverse alphabetical order in even-numbered years.

Rule 15: Nominations for national officers shall be made by the Committee on Nomination of National Officers and from the floor.

Rule 16: Only one nominating speech and only one seconding speech shall be permitted for each candidate for an elective national office.

Rule 17: In the event two or more candidates are nominated for the same office, roll calls shall

continue until completed. The candidate receiving a majority vote of the body shall be elected.

Rule 18: Discussion of personal grievances, local conditions, or claims concerning one individual only, with respect to his or her personal interest, shall not be in order before the convention, but may be discussed before the committees of the Convention with the approval of the respective committees.

Rule 19: The national officers shall serve as the officers of the Convention. The National Adjutant shall serve as the Adjutant and Secretary of the Convention.

Rule 20: The National Sergeant at Arms shall be the Sergeant at Arms of the Convention. He or she shall be assisted by Assistant Sergeants at Arms, appointed by the National Commander.

The Convention Committees

Rule 21: The following committees are hereby provided as the standing committees of the Convention: They shall meet at the call of the Convention, the National Commander, the chairman of the committee or the committee advisors. After the first meeting, each committee secretary shall notify all committee members, the Committee on Assignment and Coordination, and the National Adjutant as to time and place of each meeting. Each committee chairman shall report the conclusions of his or her committee in writing and return all resolutions to the Committee on Assignment and Coordination for the purpose of having partial or final committee reports placed on the Convention agenda. Each committee chairman shall present his or her committee's report to the

Convention when called for by the Chair, the report to be signed by a majority of the committee.

(a): Credentials Committee: This Committee shall in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws and the Convention Rules determine the eligibility of all persons seated and voting in the National Convention and shall specifically notify the Convention and the delegates as to the number of votes to which each delegation is entitled.

(b): Committee on General Resolutions and Membership: This Committee shall consider all matters which are not covered by the resolutions referable to other committees of this Convention, and shall formulate and give expressions of thanks, appreciation and condolences, in resolution form. It shall consider all matters referred to it which pertain to citizenship, Americanism, national defense or the security of the United States. It shall consider all matters concerning membership activities and eligibility requirements and all other matters in which public and private agencies charged with the improvement of disabled veterans and their dependents are concerned.

(c): Committee on Legislation and Veterans Rights: This Committee shall consider all resolutions proposing or requiring legislation on compensation, pensions, legal and guardianship matters and appeals, as well as on all matters of policy and procedure with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, including problems involving National Service Life Insurance. It shall consider all resolutions not requiring legislation on compensation, pensions, legal and guardianship matters and appeals.

(d): Committee on Constitution and Bylaws: This Committee shall give consideration to those resolutions which pertain to the proposed amendments to the National Constitution and the National Bylaws. It shall give advice to National Headquarters on the Official Ritual and also consider all matters relative to DAV auxiliaries and other subordinate units of the Disabled American Veterans insofar as they may affect proposed amendments to the National Constitution and Bylaws. All proposed amendments shall be presented to the Convention no later than the second day prior to the scheduled day of adjournment of the Convention, and voting thereon shall begin the following business day, except proposals referred to that committee by other Convention committees too late for presentation on that date, or resolutions originating in the committee; such amendments shall be presented and voted upon on the day of adjournment.

(e): Committee on Employment: This Committee shall consider all matters concerning all forms of employment of disabled veterans as well as preference rights in examination, appointments, retention, promotions, or employment or reemployment rights in Federal Civil Service and in state, county and city governments. This Committee will also consider matters relating to vocational rehabilitation, education and training for veterans and their eligible dependents.

(f): Committee on Hospital and Voluntary Services: This Committee shall consider questions concerning the standards of medical care delivery by VA hospitals and outpatient clinics, and all

matters pertaining to the DAV voluntary service programs.

(g): Committee on Nomination of National Officers: This Committee shall consider and present to the National Convention a slate of candidates which it shall nominate for national officers.

Rule 22 (a): Committee Reports: Convention committee reports covering favorably considered resolutions must be submitted by reference to their number, and a brief statement as to their content.

(b): The final report of the Credentials Committee, the report of the Committee on Nomination of National Officers, and the election of national officers as designated in Article 7, Section 7.1, of these Bylaws, shall be in that order, the last order of business, on the last day of the Convention.

Rule 23: All National Executive Committee Members shall be provided all proposed resolutions to all Convention committees before the convening of their respective District meetings.

Section 3.11 – Amendment of Rules

The foregoing Rules of the Convention may be amended by majority vote of the body at the first business session of a National Convention, notwithstanding anything contained in Article 19, Section 19.5, to the contrary.

Section 3.12 – Election of National Executive Committee Members

Para. 1: On the day prior to the opening session of the National Convention, held during an even-numbered year, the delegates from each even-numbered district, and when held during an

odd-numbered year, the delegates from each odd-numbered district shall elect a National Executive Committee Member and an Alternate, whose term shall be for two years, provided, however, that no state or territory in a district that has more than one state or territory may succeed itself on the National Executive Committee.

Para. 2: Each National Executive Committee Member representing a district entitled to elect a National Executive Committee Member and an Alternate at the National Convention then in session, as provided by Para. 1, above, must call a meeting of the delegates representing his or her district at some time during the day prior to the opening session of the Convention for the purpose of electing a National Executive Committee Member and an Alternate from his or her district. He or she must report the results of such election to the office of the National Adjutant by 10:00 a.m. of the day of the opening session of the Convention.

Para. 3: Voting for all purposes at District Meetings held at the National Convention shall be based on voting strength as determined under Section 3.6.

Article 4 – National Executive Committee

Section 4.1 – Members

The National Executive Committee shall be composed of the National Commander who shall be the presiding officer; the retiring Past National Commander; the National Senior and the National Junior Vice Commanders; and one National Executive Committee Member from each of the national districts.

Section 4.2 – Regular Meetings
The National Executive Committee shall hold its meetings as follows: one to be held no earlier than the day preceding the convening and one to be held no later than the day following adjournment of each National Convention, and at least one additional meeting during the ensuing year.

Section 4.3 – Special Meetings
Para. 1: During the period of the Convention, whenever the National Commander deems it necessary, he or she may call a special meeting of the National Executive Committee.
Para. 2: At other times the National Commander may call a special meeting of the National Executive Committee and, upon written demand of forty percent of its members, must call and conduct a meeting within twenty days of notification.

Section 4.4 – Who May Also Attend
Any member of the Disabled American Veterans may attend meetings of the National Executive Committee except when the National Executive Committee may declare itself in executive session. The right to attend such meetings shall be without the right to voice or vote and without cost to the National Organization. With unanimous consent of the Committee, such member may speak.

Section 4.5 – Ballots
The regular business of the Organization requiring the consideration of the National Executive Committee between meetings shall be transacted through the office of the National Adjutant.

Section 4.6 – Powers
The National Executive Committee is vested with the administrative powers of the Organization. It may adopt Regulations, Mandates and Statements of Policy to implement its determinations, and to implement the legislative and executive determinations of the Organization.

Article 5 – National Districts

Section 5.1 – Composition of Districts
The territory in which this Organization shall operate shall be divided into national districts, which shall be numerically identified as follows:

District No. 1	Massachusetts
District No. 2	New York
District No. 3	Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont
District No. 4	Connecticut, Delaware and New Jersey
District No. 5	Pennsylvania
District No. 6	District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Puerto Rico
District No. 7	Florida
District No. 8	Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee
District No. 9	Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina
District No. 10	Michigan
District No. 11	Ohio
District No. 12	Illinois and Wisconsin
District No. 13	Indiana and Kentucky
District No. 14	Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota

District No. 15	Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska
District No. 16	California
District No. 17	Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming
District No. 18	Arizona, Hawaii and Nevada
District No. 19	Idaho, Oregon and Washington
District No. 20	Texas
District No. 21	Arkansas and Oklahoma

Section 5.2 – District Meetings
Meetings of National Districts are not required other than for the purposes defined in Section 3.12.

Article 6 – Charters

Section 6.1 – Power to Grant and Revoke
The National Executive Committee may grant or revoke charters of state departments and chapters in any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any territorial possession of the United States.

Section 6.2 – Chapters

Para. 1: Not less than twenty-five persons, eligible for membership in this Organization, who desire to form a chapter, shall make application for a charter to National Headquarters, using the form prescribed by the National Executive Committee. If there is an existing chapter in the same city, town or borough, then not less than one hundred eligible persons shall sign the application. No person who has been a member during the prior membership year shall be included in determining the above minimum numerical requirements.

Para. 2: The National Executive Committee may not approve or disapprove, or grant or refuse to grant a charter without first giving the state department of the state from which such request for a charter originates the opportunity to approve or protest the granting of such charter by the National Executive Committee. If there is no state department, such notice shall be given to all chapters in the state.

Para. 3: Once a chapter has been chartered, that chapter may not relocate without prior approval of the department executive committee and National Executive Committee, or where there is no department executive committee, approval by the National Executive Committee.

Section 6.3 – State Departments

The chapters in any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, or any territorial possession of the United States may petition the National Executive Committee for the establishment of a state department.

Section 6.4 – Suspension and Revocation of Charters

Para. 1 (a): The state commander may suspend the charter of a chapter for a period of thirty days or more, but not to exceed ninety days, for violations of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Organization or refusal to comply with the lawful orders of the National Convention, National Commander, National Executive Committee, state commander or department executive committee. The state commander taking such action shall notify the chapter and the National Commander

of such action, in writing, within fourteen days thereof, giving the reasons therefor. The chapter so suspended may appeal directly to the National Commander and the National Commander may, in his or her discretion, revoke such suspension. The state commander may also direct that any funds deposited in financial institutions in the name of the chapter be frozen during the period of suspension.

(b): The National Commander may suspend the charter of any subordinate unit for a period of sixty days or more, but not to exceed one hundred eighty days, for violations of the Constitution or Bylaws of the Organization, or refusal to comply with his or her lawful orders, the lawful orders of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the state commander or the department executive committee. He or she may, additionally, place the subordinate unit under trusteeship during this period. He or she may also direct that any funds deposited in financial institutions in the name of the subordinate unit be frozen during the period of suspension.

(c): While under suspension (and not under trusteeship) no meetings shall be held in the name of the subordinate unit (or the Organization) except for the sole purpose of discussing the cause, effect or removal of the penalty. No funds of the subordinate unit shall be expended or obligations incurred while the order of suspension is in force.

(d): The National Commander, in his or her sole discretion, may revoke the charter of a subordinate unit for violations of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Organization, or refusal to comply with his or her lawful orders, the lawful orders of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee,

the state commander or the department executive committee, or for losing and failing to retain its tax-exemption issued by the Internal Revenue Service. In all cases, the National Commander shall notify such unit by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, of his or her decision, giving the reasons therefor. If the subordinate unit's charter is revoked due to losing and failing to retain its tax-exemption with the IRS, failing to submit a timely Annual Financial Report or Officer Election Report, the decision is final. Otherwise, the National Commander will advise such unit that it may, within thirty days after receipt of notification, file a request by Certified Mail, Return Requested, with the National Adjutant, asking that it be allowed to appear before the National Executive Committee to present evidence why its charter should not be revoked. If such a hearing request is filed within the thirty day period, the National Adjutant shall schedule the date, time and place for the hearing before the National Executive Committee and shall notify such unit by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, of this information. Upon conclusion of the hearing, the National Executive Committee shall either adopt or reject the National Commander's decision for the charter revocation. In the event that such unit does not file a written request, in the manner herein provided, for a hearing before the National Executive Committee, no such hearing shall be held, in which event the revocation becomes final.

(e): Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws and pending completion of an investigation, the National Commander may temporarily suspend the charter of any subordinate body if

in his or her sole discretion he or she determines that a suspension is in the best interests of the Organization.

Para. 2: During the period of suspension the business and affairs of the subordinate unit may be carried on by the trustees. The trusteeship shall be established by the National Commander and he or she shall grant it written powers and limitations; it shall consist of no more than five trustees as the National Commander shall determine, and all acts and actions of said trusteeship shall be subject to the approval or disapproval of the said National Commander who will receive a periodic written report of the situation in and the activities of the unit under suspension submitted by the trusteeship. If the unit's charter is finally revoked, the said trusteeship shall be utilized as an ad hoc committee to wind up the business and affairs of the unit, and if the unit's suspension is lifted, the trusteeship shall end with a final report to the National Commander and to the members of the unit at a regular meeting thereof.

Para. 3: The National Commander may without other cause revoke the charter of a chapter when it (a) has had less than ten members for a period of eighteen consecutive months; (b) other than a national or at-large chapter, has held less than four meetings with a quorum present within a membership year; (c) has not held an election of officers within a membership year; (d) has failed to file an annual financial report; or when, in his or her sole discretion, he or she determines that a revocation is in the best interest of the Organization.

Para. 4: When the charter of any chapter has been revoked, all members of the chapter shall be transferred by the National Adjutant to the closest chapter in the state where the former chapter was chartered. If the member is not a resident of that state, their membership shall be transferred to the state at-large chapter.

Para. 5: Upon revocation of the charter of any chapter or county or district council where no state department exists, or upon revocation of any charter of a state department, all property, money and effects of said state department, chapter, or county or district council shall revert to the National Organization, there to be held in trust for eighteen months. In the event the state department, chapter, or county or district council's charter is not reissued within the eighteen-month period, the said property, money and effects shall become the absolute property of the National Organization. Disposition of assets of units of the DAV Auxiliary are controlled by the appropriate provisions of their Constitution and Bylaws.

Para. 6: Upon revocation of the charter of a chapter or county or district council under the jurisdiction of a state department, all property, money and effects of the chapter or county or district council shall become the property of the state department. Disposition of assets of units of the DAV Auxiliary are controlled by the appropriate provisions of their Constitution and Bylaws.

Para. 7: No chapter shall have the authority to place on probation, suspend or revoke the charter of any DAV Auxiliary unit.

Para. 8: If a department, chapter, county or district council ("Former DAV Entity") voluntarily

or involuntarily ceases to operate as a DAV-related entity, all assets that were held or should have been held by Former DAV Entity on the actual date of such cessation (regardless of when finalized or formalized) belong to DAV. Such assets shall be transferred as provided herein. In the case of the cessation of a department, assets shall be transferred to the National Organization. In the case of the cessation of a chapter or county or district council, assets shall be transferred to the state department having jurisdiction or (if there is no state department) to the National Organization. This provision shall not apply in the case of chapter mergers approved by the National Executive Committee. This provision shall apply regardless of whether Former DAV Entity continues to exist as a legal entity subsequent to its association with DAV.

Article 7 – National Officers

Section 7.1 – Elected National Officers

The National Convention shall elect a National Commander, a National Senior Vice Commander, a National First Junior Vice Commander, a National Second Junior Vice Commander, a National Third Junior Vice Commander, a National Fourth Junior Vice Commander, a National Judge Advocate and a National Chaplain, provided, however, that no two National Vice Commanders shall be elected from the same state department.

Section 7.2 – Appointed National Officers

Para. 1: The National Commander, with the consent of the National Executive Committee, shall appoint a National Adjutant who shall be the Chief

Executive Officer of the Organization. He or she may not appoint himself or herself.

Para. 2: The National Convention Chairman, Officer of the Day and Sergeant at Arms shall be appointed by the National Commander.

Para. 3: The National Commander may appoint a National Chief of Staff, Deputy Chiefs of Staff and Aides as he or she deems appropriate and shall notify the appropriate state departments of such appointments.

Section 7.3 – National Commander; Duties

Along with the other duties or powers set forth in the DAV National Constitution and Bylaws, the National Commander shall be the presiding officer of the National Convention and of the National Executive Committee and such other committees as may be authorized by the Convention, or by the National Executive Committee.

Section 7.4 – National Adjutant; Duties

Para. 1: The National Adjutant, subject to the instructions of the National Commander, National Executive Committee, the Board of Directors or National Convention, shall supervise and direct all activities of the National Organization.

Para. 2: In addition to the other duties and powers set forth in these Bylaws, the National Adjutant shall be the Chief Executive Officer of this Organization, and shall be the Secretary of and attend the meetings of the National Executive Committee, and shall have a voice but no vote.

Para. 3: The National Adjutant, with the consent of the National Commander, shall appoint an Executive Director of National Headquarters

who, subject to the instructions of the National Adjutant, shall manage the activities of National Headquarters, and who shall be Chief Financial Officer of the Organization. He or she shall similarly appoint an Executive Director of National Service and Legislative Headquarters, who subject to the instructions of the National Adjutant, shall manage the activities of the National Service and Legislative Headquarters. The National Adjutant shall determine the salary of such Director, with the consent of the Board of Directors.

Para. 4: The National Adjutant, with the consent of the National Commander, shall appoint an Inspector General whose duties are defined in Section 7.7. The National Adjutant shall determine the salary of such person with the consent of the Board of Directors.

Para. 5: The National Adjutant, with the consent of the National Commander, shall appoint directors, assistant directors and such other officers as he or she deems necessary to conduct the affairs of his or her office and, with the consent of the Board of Directors, determine their salaries.

Para. 6: In the event of removal of the National Adjutant from office, or his or her death, resignation or inability to discharge the duties of his or her office, the duties shall devolve upon the Executive Director of National Headquarters, who shall serve as acting National Adjutant until the National Adjutant resumes his or her office, or until his or her successor assumes office.

Section 7.5 – National Judge Advocate; Duties

Para. 1: The National Judge Advocate shall be the legal advisor to this Organization. He or she shall,

upon the request of the National Commander, the National Executive Committee, or the National Convention, render his or her opinion upon all questions arising out of National Organization, inter-chapter and inter-department matters. The National Judge Advocate shall pass judgment on the provisions of chapter and department constitutions and bylaws and amendments thereto and approve them before they can be operative.

Para. 2: Upon receiving the opinion of the National Judge Advocate upon any question, the National Commander shall render a decision which shall be final unless a written notice of appeal to the National Executive Committee stating the grounds therefor is filed by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, with the National Adjutant within thirty days after mailing of the decision of the National Commander. In the event of such an appeal, the decision of the National Executive Committee shall be final, unless a further written notice of appeal to the National Convention stating the grounds therefor is filed by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, with the National Adjutant within thirty days after mailing of the decision of the National Executive Committee. Under any such appeal, the burden shall be on the appellant to demonstrate that the decision is clearly erroneous. In all such cases, the decision of the National Convention shall be final.

Section 7.6 – Chaplain, Officer of the Day, Sergeant at Arms; Duties

The duties of the Chaplain, Officer of the Day and Sergeant at Arms shall be as prescribed in the Official Ritual of the Organization.

Section 7.7 – Inspector General; Duties
The Inspector General, under the supervision of the National Adjutant, or the National Adjutant's designee, shall investigate any alleged violation of the National Constitution and Bylaws, including but not limited to occurrences in any subordinate unit, which may impugn the integrity or reputation of the Organization. He or she shall report his or her findings and recommendations to the National Adjutant or his or her designee.

Section 7.8 – Term of Office of Elected Officers

Para. 1: The elected National Officers and the National Executive Committee Members shall be installed within 24 hours following the adjournment of the National Convention at which they are elected, and shall hold their respective offices until their successors have been installed.

Para. 2: In the event of the removal of the National Commander from office, or his or her death, resignation, or inability to discharge the duties of his or her office, the same shall devolve upon the National Senior Vice Commander; and in the case of the removal, death, resignation or inability of both the National Commander and National Senior Vice Commander, the duties of the office shall devolve upon the office of the successively numbered National Vice Commanders. The inability of any such officer to discharge such duties, or following such inability, whether he or she is sufficiently recovered to resume such duties, shall be determined by two-thirds vote of the National Executive Committee.

Para. 3: In the event of the removal of a National Executive Committee Member from office or his

or her death, resignation or inability to discharge the duties of his or her office, the duties shall devolve upon the alternate National Executive Committee Member. In the event of any of the foregoing circumstances with respect to the alternate Committee member, the National District, according to Article 3, Section 3.12, Para. 2, shall, with the concurrence of the National Commander, elect his or her successor to serve the unexpired portion of the term of office vacated.

Para. 4: Elected National Officers and National Executive Committee Members may be removed from office, for cause, by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Committee.

Para. 5: No person shall succeed himself or herself as National Commander.

Section 7.9 – Term of Office of Certain Appointees

Para. 1: The term of office of persons appointed by the National Commander under Section 7.2 of these Bylaws and of persons appointed by the National Adjutant under Section 7.4 of these Bylaws shall not exceed that of the appointing power and may be terminated at any time by the appointing power, provided, however, that the removal of the National Adjutant by the National Commander is subject to approval by a two-thirds vote of the National Executive Committee. The National Executive Committee may, by a two-thirds vote of its members, remove the National Adjutant from office for cause.

Para. 2: The term of office of all persons appointed by the National Commander under Section 7.2 of these Bylaws and of all persons appointed by the National Adjutant under Section

7.4 of these Bylaws terminates automatically at the adjournment of each Convention, except that such appointees who are not employees of the National Organization may continue to serve until their successors are installed. There is no right whatsoever to reappointment to any position held by appointment under Section 7.2 or under Section 7.4 of these Bylaws.

Section 7.10: Interim Committees
The National Commander, within sixty days after his or her election, shall appoint the following Interim Committees: Constitution and Bylaws; Membership; Legislation; Employment; International Affairs; Hospital and Voluntary Services; Women Veterans; and POW/MIA. The members of such Committees shall serve without compensation.

Article 8 – State Departments

Section 8.1 – Governing Body
The state departments shall be the authorized governing bodies of the chapters operating within the boundary lines of their respective states. Every chapter shall be a member of the state department within which it is organized, and shall have all rights and privileges equal to all other chapters within that state.

Section 8.2 – Legislative Powers
The legislative powers granted to the state department shall be vested in the state department convention which shall be composed of the state department officers and the accredited delegates representing the chapters within the state department.

Section 8.3 – Department Officers; State Department Officer Election Reports

Para. 1: Each state department shall elect annually a state commander, a state senior vice commander, one or more state junior vice commanders, and shall elect or appoint a state adjutant, a state treasurer and a state inspector. It may elect or appoint such other officers as may be provided by its constitution and bylaws. Appointed officers shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing power. Installation of department officers shall take place within 24 hours of their election or appointment. Neither a state commander nor any vice commander may serve simultaneously as an adjutant, treasurer, or judge advocate.

Para. 2: Upon election or appointment, and installation of the successor to any such office, all state department property in his or her predecessor's possession or control shall be surrendered to the newly installed officer.

Para. 3: Each state department shall submit a officer election report to the National Organization within ten days after the installation of newly elected or appointed officers. The officer election report may be submitted by the commander, senior vice commander, any junior vice commander, adjutant or treasurer using the reporting methods provided by National Headquarters. Any change in elected or appointed officers of a state department during the membership year requires the submission of a new officer election report to the National Organization within ten days after installation. Failure to file complete reports as required herein is cause to suspend or revoke the state department charter.

Section 8.4 – Financial Records, Reports

Para. 1: Each state department must keep a complete financial record of all monies received, expended and remitted. All assets of the department must be titled or held in the name of the department. Fixed assets, such as buildings, land and equipment, must be maintained in a manner that will prevent waste and abnormal deterioration. All other assets (except for minimal amounts of cash on hand) must be safeguarded or deposited in a manner appropriate to the asset and consistent with sound business practice. Upon request by the National Commander or the National Adjutant, a department shall submit satisfactory evidence of the value of assets owned by the department or its affiliated entities (as defined in Article 17, Section 17.1, of these Bylaws). Each state department shall have an audit committee composed of at least three members of the state department, excluding the state commander, state senior vice commander, state treasurer, state adjutant and state finance committee chairman, who shall conduct an annual audit and submit a report of same to the National Organization within ninety days after the close of the accounting year, which shall be the membership year commencing July 1 and ending June 30. All reports will be accomplished using the reporting methods provided by National Headquarters. All financial reports shall specify and itemize the precise source and expenditure of all funds of the state department during the reporting period. Broad or general classifications will not be deemed acceptable, and may subject the state department to the audit provisions of Article 15, Section 15.6, Para. 2, of these Bylaws. Failure to file

annual financial reports will be cause to suspend or revoke the charter of the state department. If, in the opinion of the National Organization, a financial audit of the department is necessary, and the National Commander authorizes it, such audit will be conducted by the National Organization at department expense.

Para. 2: The financial statements as required by the Bylaws must be reviewed by a certified public accountant if the gross annual income, excluding all income from the National Organization, exceeds $500,000 from all sources.

Para. 3: All bequests and/or other testamentary gifts like IRAs, bank accounts and life insurance policies regardless of size, type, or designation must be submitted to the Bequests Reporting Program (BRP) to ensure distribution is pursuant to the donor's intent. Departments are required to promptly report bequests upon notification or receipt, by submitting an image of all paperwork received to legaldepartment@dav.org.

Section 8.5 – Department Constitution; Bylaws; Regulations

Para. 1: Each state department shall adopt its own constitution, bylaws and regulations, provided that the provisions of such constitution, bylaws and regulations do not conflict with those of the National Organization and have been approved by the National Judge Advocate.

Para. 2: Each state department shall include the following provision in its bylaws unless prohibited by the charitable trust laws of its particular state: "This Department recognizes the National Organization known as Disabled American

Veterans, incorporated by Act of Congress, and affirms its allegiance, and subordination, to the National Organization, its Constitution, Bylaws and all Rules, Mandates and Regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. Upon dissolution of the Department, the assets remaining after the payment of its debts shall be distributed as provided in Article 6, Section 6.4, Paras. 5 and 8 of the National Bylaws."

Section 8.6 – Annual State Convention

Para. 1: Each state department shall hold an annual state convention, and shall operate under convention rules adopted by the department executive committee and submitted to the convention for ratification. State convention voting strength shall be uniform within that state department as to all chapters. If a chapter nominates fewer delegates than it is entitled to, all persons who have been nominated shall be declared delegates. If a chapter is unable to fill all delegate or alternate offices to which it is entitled, or in the event any delegation is entitled to cast more votes than the number of delegates present, then the votes to which it is entitled shall be divided equally among those delegates present. Membership figures upon which voting is based shall be verified in writing by National Headquarters in advance of the state convention.

Para. 2: Department officers, delegates and alternates must participate in person for the purpose of discussion and voting and there shall be no form of unit rule, voting by proxy or voting by absentee ballot.

Section 8.7 – County Councils; Districts of Departments; State At-Large Chapters — Powers

Para. 1: No district of a state department, or a county council or a state at-large chapter shall be entitled to vote as such, or to representation at any state or national convention. They shall operate under and be subject to the DAV National Constitution, Convention Mandates and these Bylaws, and to such further rules and regulations not inconsistent therewith, as may be adopted by the state department. They shall be subject to such Regulations as may be prescribed by the National Executive Committee.

Para. 2: No such district, county council or state at-large chapter shall exercise the powers of a governing body, or conduct any fundraising drive.

Article 9 – Chapters

Section 9.1 – Chapter Constitution; Bylaws; Regulations

Para. 1: Each chapter must adopt its own constitution, bylaws and regulations, provided that such constitution, bylaws and regulations do not conflict with those of the National Organization or with those of the state department with which the chapter is affiliated and provided they are approved first by the state judge advocate, then by the National Judge Advocate. If the state judge advocate does not approve the above, in transmitting the same to the National Judge Advocate at National Headquarters he or she must state the reasons for his or her disapproval which disapproval is not binding on the National Judge Advocate. Amendments must also be submitted to the state judge advocate and National Judge Advocate for approval. If there is no

state department, chapters must receive approval from the National Judge Advocate.

Para. 2: Each chapter shall include the following provision in its bylaws unless prohibited by the charitable trust laws of its particular state: "This Chapter recognizes the National Organization known as Disabled American Veterans, incorporated by Act of Congress, and affirms its allegiance, and subordination, to the National Organization, its Constitution, Bylaws and all Rules, Mandates and Regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. Upon dissolution of the Chapter, the assets remaining after the payment of its debts shall be distributed as provided in Article 6, Section 6.4, Paras. 5, 6, and 8 of the National Bylaws."

Section 9.2 – Chapter Officers; Officer Election Reports

Para. 1: Each chapter shall elect annually a chapter commander, a chapter senior vice commander, and one or more junior vice commanders, and shall elect or appoint an adjutant and a treasurer. It may elect or appoint such other officers as may be necessary to operate the chapter. Appointed officers shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing power. Installation of chapter officers shall take place within thirty days of the election or appointment. Neither a chapter commander nor any vice commander may serve simultaneously as an adjutant, treasurer, or judge advocate. Members of the chapter wishing to cast a vote during elections must be in person and there shall be no voting by proxy or absentee ballot. All other general membership meetings of a chapter may allow for virtual participation of its members, to include

voting, so long as the active membership of anyone participating virtually is validated at the beginning of each meeting and documented in the chapter minutes. Chapters that wish to allow for virtual participation of members would be responsible for facilitating such participation.

Para. 2: Upon election or appointment, and installation of the successor to any such office, all chapter property in his or her predecessor's possession or control shall be surrendered to the newly installed officer.

Para. 3: Each chapter shall submit a officer election report to the state department and National Organization within ten days after the installation of newly elected or appointed officers. The officer election report may be submitted by the commander, senior vice commander, any junior vice commander, adjutant or treasurer using the reporting methods provided by National Headquarters. Any change in elected or appointed officers of a chapter during the membership year requires the submission of a new officer election report to the state department and National Organization within ten days after installation. Failure to file complete reports as required herein is cause to suspend or revoke the chapter charter.

Section 9.3 – Financial Records, Reports

Para. 1: Each chapter shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received and expended. All assets of the chapter must be titled or held in the name of the chapter. Fixed assets, such as buildings, land and equipment, must be maintained in a manner that will prevent waste and abnormal deterioration. All other assets (except for minimal

amounts of cash on hand) must be safeguarded or deposited in a manner appropriate to the asset and consistent with sound business practice. Upon request by the National Commander or the National Adjutant, a chapter shall submit satisfactory evidence of the value of assets owned by the chapter or its affiliated entities (as defined in Article 17, Section 17.1, of these Bylaws). Each chapter shall have an audit committee composed of at least three members of the chapter, excluding the commander, senior vice commander, treasurer, adjutant and finance committee chairman, who shall conduct an annual audit and, if the gross receipts excluding dues exceed $25,000, submit a report to the state department and National Organization within ninety days after the close of the accounting year, which shall be the membership year commencing July 1 and ending June 30. All reports must be filed using the reporting methods provided by National Headquarters. All financial reports shall specify and itemize the precise source and expenditure of all funds of the chapter during the reporting period. Broad or general classifications will not be deemed acceptable and may subject the chapter to the audit provisions of Article 15, Section 15.6, Para. 2, of these Bylaws. Failure to file annual financial reports will be cause to suspend or revoke the chapter charter. If, in the opinion of the National Organization or the state department, a financial audit of the chapter is necessary, and the National Commander or state commander so authorizes it, such audit will be conducted by the National Organization or state department at chapter expense. This provision shall not exempt a chapter from the requirement of filing an annual financial report with the state department.

Para. 2: The financial statements as required by the Bylaws must be reviewed by a certified public accountant if the gross annual income, excluding membership per capita, exceeds $500,000 from all sources.

Para. 3: All bequests and/or other testamentary gifts like IRAs, bank accounts and life insurance policies regardless of size, type, or designation must be submitted to the Bequests Reporting Program (BRP) to ensure distribution is pursuant to the donor's intent. Chapters are required to promptly report bequests upon notification or receipt, by submitting an image of all paperwork received to legaldepartment@dav.org.

Section 9.4 – Chapter Name

No chapter shall adopt or use, as the name of the chapter, the name of any living person, or the name of any deceased person without the written consent of the next of kin. The name of a chapter may not be changed by chapter action from the name stated on its charter without the prior approval of the department executive committee and the National Executive Committee, and no chapter shall use a name other than as stated in its charter unless the change is similarly approved.

Article 10 – DAV Auxiliary and Their Subordinate Units

Section 10.1 – Financial Records; Officer Reports — DAV Auxiliary

Para. 1: The National Organization of the DAV Auxiliary shall make an annual report to the DAV National Convention. A financial report, which must be reviewed by a certified public accountant,

shall be filed with the National Organization within ninety days after the close of the accounting year, which shall be January 1 through December 31.

Para. 2: Each state organization of the DAV Auxiliary and its subordinate units shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received and expended. All assets of the subordinate unit must be titled or held in the name of the unit. Fixed assets, such as buildings, land and equipment, must be maintained in a manner that will prevent waste and abnormal deterioration. All other assets (except for minimal amounts of cash on hand) must be safeguarded or deposited in a manner appropriate to the asset and consistent with sound business practice. Each shall have an audit committee composed of at least three members of the organization or subordinate unit, excluding the commander, senior vice commander, treasurer and adjutant or finance chairman, who shall conduct an annual audit and, if the gross receipts excluding dues exceed $10,000, submit a report to the governing DAV state department and DAV National Organization within ninety days after the close of the accounting year of the organization or subordinate unit. All reports will be filed on forms provided by National Headquarters. All financial reports shall specify and itemize the precise expenditure of all funds during the reporting period. Broad or general classifications will not be deemed acceptable and may subject the organization or subordinate unit to the audit provisions of Article 15, Section 15.6, Para. 2, of these Bylaws. Failure to file annual financial reports will be cause to suspend or revoke the charter of the subordinate unit. If, in the opinion of the National Organization or the state

department, a financial audit of the subordinate unit is necessary, and the National Commander or state commander so authorizes it, such audit will be conducted by the National Organization or state department at the expense of the subordinate unit. The foregoing provisions shall not exempt a subordinate unit from the requirement of filing an annual financial report with the state department.

Para. 3: The financial statements as required by the Bylaws must be reviewed by a certified public accountant if the gross annual income, excluding membership per capita, exceeds $500,000 from all sources.

Para. 4: All bequests and/or other testamentary gifts like IRAs, bank accounts and life insurance policies regardless of size, type, or designation must be submitted to the Bequests Reporting Program (BRP) to ensure distribution is pursuant to the donor's intent. Auxiliary entities are required to promptly report bequests upon notification or receipt, by submitting an image of all paperwork received to legaldepartment@dav.org.

Para. 5: Each DAV Auxiliary state organization and its subordinate units, shall submit an officer report to the governing DAV state department and DAV National Organization within ten days after the installation of newly elected or appointed officers. The officer report shall be completed on the form provided by National Headquarters and shall be certified by the commander and adjutant. Any change in elected or appointed officers during the membership year requires the submission of a new officer report to the state department and National Organization within ten days after the installation of newly elected or appointed successor officers.

Failure to file complete reports as required herein is cause for suspension or revocation of the charter of that body.

Section 10.2 – Limitation of Powers

Para. 1: The National Organization of the DAV Auxiliary, and all subordinate units thereof, shall be subject to DAV National Convention Mandates, the DAV National Constitution and Bylaws, National Executive Committee Regulations, and to the National Organization's supervision and recommendations.

Para. 2: Each auxiliary and its subordinate units shall include the following provision in its bylaws unless prohibited by the charitable trust laws of its particular state: "This [type of unit] recognizes the National Organization known as Disabled American Veterans, incorporated by Act of Congress, and affirms its allegiance, and subordination, to the National Organization, its Constitution, Bylaws and all Rules, Mandates and Regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. Upon dissolution of the [type of unit], the assets remaining after the payment of its debts shall be distributed as provided in Article 6, Section 6.4, Paras. 5 and 6, of the National Bylaws."

Article 11 – Membership

Section 11.1 – Definition

Members are persons who have met the eligibility criteria set out herein and have paid the appropriate dues. There shall be no associate, special or honorary memberships. Members who are under suspension are not considered "members" under these Bylaws.

Section 11.2 – Membership Eligibility

Para. 1(a): Any man or woman, wounded, gassed, injured or disabled in the line of duty during time of war as substantiated by official medical records of the armed forces, by notation on discharge certificate or Adjutant General's office record, or by United States Department of Veterans Affairs records, while in the service of either the military or naval forces of the United States of America, and who has not been dishonorably discharged or separated from such service, or who may still be in active service in the armed forces of the United States of America is eligible. Others, who were disabled while serving with any of the armed forces of any nations associated with the United States as allies during any of its war periods, who are American citizens and who are honorably discharged, are also eligible for membership. Those who are eligible also include but are not limited to the following:

1. All persons who were prisoners of war.
2. All persons awarded the Purple Heart.
3. All persons with a disability discharge from military service.
4. All persons who are receiving or ever did receive compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for a disability incurred during time of war.
5. All persons with a wartime service-connected disability of ANY degree (including those with a rating of less than 10 percent) officially rated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.
6. All persons awarded vocational training because of injury or disability.

7. All persons retired from military service for disability incurred during time of war.
8. All persons drawing the statutory award for arrested or cured tuberculosis of wartime service origin.

(b): If there is a question on eligibility, it shall be submitted to the National Adjutant for his or her decision. The decision of the National Adjutant under this article shall be final.

Section 11.3 – Eligibility; Definition of "Time of War"

Para. 1: "During time of war," as used in Article III of the National Constitution, shall include the following periods of service:

Mexican War: April 24, 1846, to May 30, 1848
Civil War: April 15, 1861, to August 20, 1866
Indian Wars: From 1869 to 1898 there were 34 campaigns and military expeditions; disability because of service in any one is sufficient.
Spanish-American War: April 21, 1898, to April 11, 1899
Philippine Insurrection: April 11, 1899, to July 4, 1902
Boxer Rebellion: June 20, 1900, to May 12, 1901
Cuban Pacification: October 6, 1906, to April 1, 1909
Vera Cruz Expedition: April 21, 1914, to November 26, 1914
Punitive Expedition into Mexico: March 15, 1916, to February 5, 1917
World War I: April 6, 1917, to July 2, 1921
World War II & Korea: September 16, 1940, to January 31, 1955

Vietnam and other engagements: January 31, 1955, to October 14, 1976

Iranian Crisis, Lebanon Crisis, Invasion of Grenada, Invasion of Panama and other engagements: November 4, 1979, to January 31, 1990

Persian Gulf, Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Iraq or other crises: August 2, 1990, until terminated by presidential proclamation or congressional resolution

Para. 2: The requirement "during time of war" is also met if it is determined that the applicant's wound, injury or disability was incurred at any time (1) as a direct result of armed conflict, or (2) while engaged in extra-hazardous service under conditions simulating war, or (3) while the United States was engaged in any war. A disability incurred or aggravated during service between September 16, 1940, and December 7, 1941, is included in the term "under conditions simulating war."

Para. 3: This Organization reserves the right to pass on the eligibility to membership of any applicant, or the continued eligibility of any member.

Section 11.4 – Duration of Membership

Effective July 1, 2004, for membership to be valid for any membership year it must be initiated or renewed by a minimum payment of dues of $40.00 as specified in Section 11.9. Additional payments may be made at any time. The full amount as specified under the provisions of Section 11.9, Para. 2, may be paid at any time. When the membership is paid for in full, it continues throughout the member's life, except as otherwise specified in these Bylaws. If not

paid in full, membership shall continue only so long as there are sufficient funds to make distribution under Section 11.10, after which membership must be renewed. On renewal the member's account shall reflect full credit for previously paid installment amounts.

Section 11.5 – Multiple Memberships
No member shall hold memberships simultaneously in more than one chapter within the same state unless such chapter is composed exclusively of blind veterans.

Section 11.6 – Basic Rights and Privileges
No member shall be expelled or limited in any of the rights and privileges of membership, except as otherwise specified in these Bylaws. He or she shall have all the benefits of chapter, state department and national membership.

Section 11.7 – Eligibility to Office

Para. 1: Any person holding membership in this Organization shall be eligible to any elective or appointive office in this Organization, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

Para. 2: No person may hold or perform the duties of the position of department or chapter service officer (DSO/CSO) unless that person has been properly hired, elected or appointed to such position. No one may hold the position of, or serve as, a DSO/CSO if that person is currently (or has in the last twelve months) engaged in the representation of veterans or their dependents in applying for benefits to which they are entitled under the law, with an arrangement wherein the

veteran or their dependent themselves pay or may in some way be liable for the costs of such representation. Absent special circumstances approved in writing by the National Adjutant, no person not a member of DAV may serve as a DSO/CSO.

Section 11.8 – Transfers

Para. 1: Members of one chapter may secure a transfer of membership to another chapter, with the approval of the receiving chapter, whereupon the National Organization shall notify both chapters. Members being transferred as a result of action taken in accordance with Section 6.4, Para. 4 do not need to meet with the approval of the receiving chapter.

Para. 2: No transfer shall take effect as to dues credit or voting strength until the beginning of the membership year following completion of the transfer. All rights of membership in a chapter shall become effective upon the approval of the transfer by the receiving chapter.

Section 11.9 – Membership Dues

Para. 1: Effective July 1, 2004, minimum dues shall be $40.00, and shall be for the membership year or any part thereof. The membership year starts July 1 and ends the following June 30. Dues will be applied toward becoming a member for life, and will be credited directly to the individual's membership account, as established under Para. 2, below. Once the appropriate full membership amount has been paid into the account no further payment shall be required.

Para. 2: Effective January 1, 2027, those eligible may become a member for life upon payment of $350.00.

Para. 3: Notwithstanding anything in this Article to the contrary, upon attaining the age of 80 no person eligible for membership shall be required to pay either initial dues or the balance due of existing account, and shall be immediately declared a member for life in the Disabled American Veterans.

Section 11.10 – Distribution from the Life Membership Fund

The following distributions shall be made from the Life Membership Fund annually during the life of a paid member:

- To the chapter: $3.50 per paid member.
- To the state department: $2.50 per paid member.
- To the National Organization: $9.00 per paid member.

Provided, however, that if it shall be determined by the Board of Directors that such payments from the Life Membership Fund, based upon internal audit, are not on a sound actuarial basis, the above payments will be reduced to not less than:

- To the chapter: $2.00 per paid member.
- To the state department: $1.00 per paid member.
- To the National Organization: $4.00 per paid member.

Section 11.11 – Dues Not Refundable

No member, upon resigning from membership, shall receive a refund of any dues.

Section 11.12 – Recruitment Drives
Special recruitment drives conducted by state departments, chapters or individuals shall advise new members of the presence of chapters closest to their home or area so that such members shall have the opportunity to indicate their chapter preference.

Article 12 – National Employees

Section 12.1 – Employment Policy

Para. 1: Subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, the National Adjutant is authorized to formulate, effectuate and amend manuals for employment for the National Organization which shall be in writing and distributed to all employees.

Para. 2: No paid employee of the National Organization, hereafter referred to as "the employer," who is a member of DAV or its DAV Auxiliary, and who has been so employed continuously for a period of five years, shall be discharged except for cause.

Section 12.2 – Employment Preference
Preference shall be given to members of DAV, their spouses, dependents or survivors in the selection of employees by the National Organization.

Section 12.3 – Salaries

Para. 1: The salary of the National Adjutant shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Para. 2: The National Commander is not a paid employee of the National Organization; he or she shall receive an amount as expenses for his or her year's tenure to be fixed by the Board of Directors.

Article 13 – Board of Directors

Section 13.1 – Duties

The Board of Directors shall provide oversight and assessment of the operations and staff of the National Organization. The Board shall have responsibility for approval of the annual budget. The Board shall implement policies to ensure that all finances and assets of the National Organization, including the Life Membership Fund, are managed in a prudent and responsible manner.

Section 13.2 – Members

Para. 1: The Board of Directors shall be composed of seven voting members, to include the National Adjutant, the National Senior Vice Commander and the immediate Past National Commander. The remaining four members shall be elected by the National Executive Committee from among its members. The election shall take place at the annual National Convention. Two of the members elected by the National Executive Committee shall be from even-numbered national districts and elected in even-numbered years to a two-year term. Two of the members elected by the National Executive Committee shall be from odd-numbered national districts and elected in odd-numbered years to a two-year term.

Para. 2: Annually, immediately following adjournment of the National Convention, and by majority vote, the Board shall elect a Chairman, a Vice Chairman and a Secretary, who shall each serve one-year terms, or until their successors are elected. A Treasurer shall be similarly elected, except that he or she shall be elected from the two Board members

elected in the previous year by the National Executive Committee.

Para. 3: No member of the Board of Directors shall simultaneously hold more than one elected Board position. The National Adjutant shall not be eligible to serve as Chairman of the Board.

Para. 4: The National Commander and the National Judge Advocate shall serve as advisors to the Board with the privilege of attending all meetings and sessions of the Board with voice but no vote.

Section 13.3 – Vacancies

Para. 1: Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, should the National Adjutant become unable or unwilling to serve on the Board of Directors, the vacancy shall be filled by the Executive Director, National Headquarters, until a new National Adjutant is appointed.

Para. 2: Should the National Senior Vice Commander or the immediate Past National Commander become unable or unwilling to serve on the Board of Directors, the next most senior eligible National Vice Commander shall fill the vacancy until the next National Convention.

Para. 3: Should one of the four members of the Board elected by the National Executive Committee become unable or unwilling to serve on the Board of Directors, the vacancy shall be filled at the next meeting of the National Executive Committee. At that time, a member shall be elected from an odd-numbered or even-numbered district as appropriate to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Para. 4: Should the Chairman of the Board become unable or unwilling to serve, the Vice Chairman shall serve as Chairman for the remainder of the unexpired term. If a vacancy occurs in the offices of Vice Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer, the Board shall elect an eligible replacement to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 13.4 – Meetings
The Board of Directors shall meet not less frequently than once each calendar quarter. A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chairman of the Board or by any four members upon notice to all members of the Board.

Article 14 – National Finances

Section 14.1 – Membership and Fiscal Year
The membership year shall start July 1 and end the following June 30. The fiscal year shall be from January 1 to December 31.

Section 14.2 – National Budget

Para. 1: This Organization shall operate on a budget which shall be approved by the Board of Directors before each National Convention, after consideration of budgets proposed by all department heads. This budget shall be submitted to the Convention for ratification or rejection as a whole. Copies of the budget proposed for ratification shall be given to each registrant upon registration. In the event the budget is rejected it shall be returned to the Board of Directors with explanation. The Board of Directors shall approve a revised budget and resubmit it to the Convention for ratification or rejection. In the event the National Convention

should adjourn without approving the budget, the Board of Directors shall determine the budget.

Para. 2: The Board of Directors may transfer and authorize expenditures from items within the approved budget for the purposes approved by said budget as the need may justify, provided that the budget for Service and Legislation shall not be reduced by any such transfer.

Para. 3: Should the Board of Directors determine that the National Organization is, or will be, unable to meet its current budget, it shall declare in writing to the National Adjutant, as an instruction to him or her, a priority itemization of those expenditures to be reduced or eliminated. The budget for Field Services and for Legislative Services shall be the last to be affected. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no employee shall receive less than the Federal minimum wage.

Section 14.3 – Financial Statements
Financial statements showing income and expenditures, and a balance sheet, shall be given to each registrant at the National Convention.

Section 14.4 – Depositories
The Board of Directors shall by policy designate one or more depositories for all revenue of this Organization.

Section 14.5 – National Revenue; Deposit and Investment

Para. 1: All monies received in payment for membership shall be deposited in a separate account in one of these depositories, and all membership monies and securities shall be kept separate from

the general funds of the Organization, subject only to withdrawals to carry out the Life Membership Program.

Para. 2: The National Organization shall provide a blanket fidelity bond in an amount not less than $400,000 per loss for the protection of the Life Membership Fund and the General Fund. The premium for such bond shall be paid by the National Adjutant from the general funds of the Organization.

Para. 3: All funds received in the name of the National Organization, or by any officer or committee thereof, shall be deposited forthwith in such depositories as may be designated by the Board of Directors, where such funds shall be and remain the property of this Organization until such time as they are properly expended or remitted.

Section 14.6 – Loans

No funds of the National Organization or any subordinate unit shall be used for making loans of any kind except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, or in the National Bylaws of the DAV Auxiliary, or as approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 14.7 – Purchases from the National Organization; Terms

All purchases from the National Organization shall be for cash, credit card or check, except Forget-Me-Not supplies, which may be delivered to chapters and state departments in good standing on a credit account. All such Forget-Me-Not supplies purchased on open account must be paid for in full within thirty days after the close of the drive.

Section 14.8 – Indebtedness to the National Organization
The National Adjutant shall deduct from annual dues or fundraising distributions to departments and chapters monies due from such units.

Section 14.9 – Safeguarding DAV Assets
It is the responsibility of departments and chapters to protect DAV assets from theft or conversion. This responsibility includes, without limitation, implementation of sound financial management practices and the purchase of insurance to cover theft losses. In the absence of such insurance, the National Organization shall provide a mechanism by which departments and chapters may be reimbursed for the theft or conversion of department or chapter assets by an elected or appointed department or chapter officer. Such reimbursement shall be limited to $100,000 per occurrence and be subject to a deductible amount of $5,000. Such reimbursement shall be made only upon a full and final adjudication of theft or conversion which is either upheld on appeal and/or no longer subject to appeal. Such reimbursement shall also be subject to the limits and conditions of the reimbursement program as detailed in the pertinent Regulations of the National Executive Committee. This amendment is effective January 1, 2006.

Section 14.10 – Travel Expense
Para. 1: National Officers whose duties require their attendance at official meetings of the Organization or in the conduct of official business of the Organization, as may be authorized by the National Commander or the National Adjutant,

shall be paid travel and per diem expenses as determined by the Board of Directors.

Para. 2: Employees authorized by the National Adjutant to travel in connection with their official duties shall receive from the National Organization either a specified per diem allowance, as determined by the National Adjutant, or reimbursement for actual expenses limited to transportation, hotel rooms, meals and other essential items. The travel authorization will specify the travel expense payment method.

Para. 3: All National Executive Committee Members shall be authorized to attend, at National expense, all department conventions in their district.

Article 15 – Sources of Income

Section 15.1 – For the National Organization
The revenue of the National Organization shall be derived from dues, contributions and such other sources as may be approved by the National Executive Committee.

Section 15.2 – For State Departments

Para. 1: The revenue of state departments of this Organization shall be derived from dues, contributions and such other sources as may be approved by the National Executive Committee.

Para. 2: Not less than ten days prior to requesting approval of the National Executive Committee to conduct any fundraising project or activity within the territory of any one or more chapters, a state department shall notify all such chapters of its intention, and any chapter opposing the same shall immediately file its objection thereto with the National Executive Committee.

Para. 3: No state department fundraising project, which is to be conducted in an area governed by any other state department, shall be approved by the National Executive Committee.

Section 15.3 – For Chapters and DAV Auxiliaries

Para. 1: The revenue of chapters and DAV Auxiliary units shall be derived from dues, contributions and such other sources as may be approved by the state department within which the same is located. Where no commissions are to be paid, and solicitation of funds shall be only by personal contact of members, or friends of members, no prior approval shall be required for a fundraising project where the gross receipts will be less than $5,000 provided, however, that advance written notice of thirty days to the state department shall be required on all such fundraising projects. (Such fundraising must be in compliance with federal, state and local laws.) All monies received by local chapters on fundraising activities except as may lawfully be required to be paid to the state department having jurisdiction over such chapters, shall be retained by such chapter. If there is no state department, approval must be obtained from the National Executive Committee.

Para. 2: If, in any city where there is more than one chapter, it is desired by one chapter to conduct a particular city-wide fundraising project, then such chapter shall advise all other chapters in such city of its intention to request approval (or intent to notify, in the event less than $5,000 in gross receipts are anticipated) and any chapter opposing the same shall immediately file its objection thereto with its state department. If there is no state department,

objections shall be filed with the National Executive Committee.

Para. 3: No chapter or its auxiliary shall conduct a fundraising drive in the territory of any other chapter unless the approval of the chapter concerned is first received, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Section.

Para. 4: Where a majority of the chapters of a city and/or county desires to undertake a city- or county-wide fundraising project without the concurrence of the minority of the chapters therein, prior approval therefor must be obtained from the state department. If there is no state department, approval must be obtained from the National Executive Committee.

Para. 5: Any chapter, and any DAV Auxiliary unit, with its chapter's prior consent, may conduct an annual Forget-Me-Not Drive, involving solely the offering of Forget-Me-Not flowers purchased through National Headquarters, where there is no paid promoter involved, unless prior approval is expressly required by this Section. Each chapter or DAV Auxiliary unit shall advise the state department of the dates planned, which shall not exceed seven total days throughout the membership year.

Para. 6: Any state department may conduct such Forget-Me-Not Drive within the state, in cities or counties where there is no chapter, without prior approval from the National Executive Committee.

Para. 7: No member shall solicit funds or offer for sale any form or kind of merchandise or service as a disabled veteran, or in the name of the Organization, or while wearing any portion of the DAV uniform, except with the approval of the chapter(s) of the particular chapter town in which he or she is

operating, and of the state department. The member is further subject to the other provisions of this Section.

Para. 8: Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, any state department, chapter or DAV Auxiliary entity desiring to engage in fundraising projects involving, directly or indirectly, contracts of any nature shall be required to obtain prior approval from their state department and the National Executive Committee. Contracts submitted to the National Executive Committee for approval must allow sixty days from the date of submittal until the proposed commencement date of the contract in order for the National Executive Committee to give them proper consideration.

Para. 9: Effective August 1, 1989, all new Thrift Store operations which require written management contracts shall be entered into by the state department in which the activity is to take place. Existing approved Thrift Store written management contracts in effect prior to August 1, 1989, may be renewed in accordance with these Bylaws, so long as such contracts are consistent with these Bylaws and the Regulations of the National Executive Committee.

Para. 10: All net income raised from fundraising projects shall be required to be devoted, within a reasonable time, to the cause or program for which it was intended.

Para. 11: The National Executive Committee shall not approve a contract in which administration and costs of fundraising exceed percentages established as guidelines by accepted federal, state, advisory, and/or other regulatory agencies, except for contracts the nature of which do not lend

themselves to an assessment of promotional or fundraising costs.

Para. 12: The privilege to use the name "Disabled American Veterans," any name similar to it, or symbols of it, shall not be transferable, directly or indirectly, without prior approval of the state department having jurisdiction, and of the National Executive Committee.

Section 15.4 – Subordinate Units Generally

Para. 1: The National Organization of the DAV Auxiliary shall not conduct any fundraising project without the prior approval of the DAV National Executive Committee.

Para. 2: No state department of the DAV Auxiliary shall conduct any fundraising project without the prior consent of the DAV state department.

Para. 3: No local unit of the DAV Auxiliary shall conduct any fundraising project without the prior approval of the chapter with which it is affiliated and of the DAV state department or the DAV National Executive Committee if there is no DAV state department, except that it may conduct such an activity, with the prior approval of such chapter, alone, if the chapter would not be required to secure approval therefor under Section 15.3, Para. 1.

Para. 4: If any local unit or other subordinate unit of the DAV Auxiliary, desires to hold any fundraising drive or fundraising activity in the territory of more than one chapter, such subordinate unit, before asking for the required approval, shall give written notice of its intention to ask such approval, with reasonably detailed information about the proposed drive or activity, to all chapters within such territory not less than two weeks

before seeking approval, and all such chapters shall have the right to protest, promptly to the state department or to the National Executive Committee, whichever may have the power of approval as set out above.

Section 15.5 – Violations; Penalty
Any state department, or other subordinate unit which conducts a fundraising project without prior approval and/or notice, as required herein, shall subject its charter to suspension or revocation.

Section 15.6 – Supervision and Enforcement

Para. 1: The National Commander shall have authority to enforce and supervise the provisions of this Article. Such authority shall include, but not be limited to, continuous review of all fundraising projects subsequent to their approval by the appropriate DAV governing bodies as set forth herein. Such authority shall extend to all state departments, chapters, or DAV auxiliaries.

Para. 2: Without limiting the remedies elsewhere provided in these Bylaws, the National Commander may, in his or her sole discretion, direct an audit of the books and records of any such subordinate unit. The National Organization, an independent accountant, or a certified public accountant shall conduct such audit. The expense of such audit shall be borne by the subordinate unit.

Para. 3: Each subordinate unit subject to the provisions hereof shall make available to the National Commander or his or her designee all books and records for inspection at any reasonable time at its principal headquarters.

Para. 4: Each subordinate unit subject to the provisions hereof shall hold the National Organization harmless from any claims arising from approval granted or withheld by any governing body hereunder, and the approval of such body is specifically limited to the project submitted as a means of fundraising, and may not be construed so as to make the approving body a party to any contract or obligation arising out of the project.

Para. 5: The National Commander acting pursuant to Para. 2 above, in his or her sole discretion, may order any subordinate unit subject to the provisions hereof to cease and desist from any fundraising project deemed by him or her not to be in the best interest of the Disabled American Veterans.

Para. 6: This Section shall be applicable to, and shall be incorporated by reference into, all contracts entered into pursuant to this Article. It shall be applicable to all parties to such contracts. If projects are conducted without written contracts but nevertheless pursuant to authority granted under this Article, the rights, duties and obligations of the subordinate unit and all parties thereto shall also be subject to the provisions of this Section.

Article 16 – Disciplinary Actions

Section 16.1 – Offenses and Recommended Penalties

Para. 1: Notwithstanding the other provisions of Article 16, the National Commander or state commander, as the case may be, may temporarily suspend a member if in his or her sole discretion he or she determines that a temporary suspension is in the best interests of the Organization. The member

affected shall be notified in writing of the temporary suspension and the allegations which caused the temporary suspension. If temporary suspension is by the National Commander it shall be effective immediately. If it is by the state commander it shall also be effective immediately, provided, however, that he or she provide a copy of such notification letter, along with all supporting documentation which substantiates the state commander's decision to the National Commander. The National Commander will have fourteen days from receipt of such notification in which to reverse the decision. The temporary suspension of a member by either the National Commander or state commander must be for the purpose of conducting an investigation to be completed within ninety (90) days. Any request for temporary suspensions to continue beyond ninety (90) days must be made by the National Commander and approved by the National Judge Advocate. Following the investigation, the member must be placed back in good standing or further action within Section 16.2 must be initiated. If a disciplinary hearing is scheduled, the member shall remain on temporary suspension until completion of the hearing process to include any appeal.

Para. 2: The state commander may recommend to the department executive committee that it suspend, transfer or expel a member for:

(a): violation of the Constitution or Bylaws of the National Organization, the state department, or a chapter;

(b): refusal to comply with the lawful orders of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the state commander or the department executive committee; or

(c): conduct not conducive to the best interests of the Organization, or contrary to the maintenance of proper order and decorum within the Organization.

Para. 3: The National Commander may recommend to the National Executive Committee imposition of the penalties referred to in Para. 2 for the offenses referred to therein and, additionally, for failure to comply with his or her lawful orders.

Section 16.2 – Notice and Hearing

Para. 1: A member may be subjected to the penalties assessable under this Article only after notice and hearing as follows:

(a): The state commander, or the National Commander, as the case may be, shall notify the member by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, of the specific violation with which he or she is being charged.

(b): The state commander, shall set a date, time and place for a hearing before the department executive committee, or the National Commander, as the case may be, shall set a date, time and place for a hearing before the National Executive Committee.

(c): The decision of the department executive committee, either affirming, modifying or rejecting the recommendation of the state commander, is subject to the approval of the National Commander.

(d): The decision of the National Executive Committee, either affirming, modifying or rejecting the recommendation of the National Commander under this Article, shall be final, anything to the contrary in these Bylaws notwithstanding.

Section 16.3 – Definitions of Penalties
The penalties imposed under this Article are defined as follows:

(a): Suspension shall remove the member from membership and/or from any office held by him or her for not more than five years.

(b): Transfer shall be the permanent transfer of membership to the state or National At-Large Chapter.

(c): Expulsion shall permanently remove the member from membership. In the event of expulsion, the National Commander may, in his or her discretion, refund the balance of dues, anything to the contrary in these Bylaws notwithstanding.

(d): Penalties imposed on a member under this Article shall apply to all memberships wherever held.

Section 16.4 – Appeal
The decision and penalty imposed shall be final, unless the penalty determined by the department executive committee, and approved by the National Commander is expulsion, in which event it shall be final unless a written notice of appeal to the National Executive Committee stating the grounds therefor is filed by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, with the National Adjutant within thirty days after mailing notice of the penalty to the member. Under such appeal, the burden shall be upon the appellant to demonstrate that the decision is clearly erroneous.

Article 17 – Incorporations, Affiliations and Other Associations

Section 17.1 – Purpose

The purpose of this Article is to ensure allegiance by subordinate units and their affiliated entities to the DAV National Bylaws and all other rules and directives issued by the National Organization. This article is also intended to ensure that neither subordinate units nor their affiliated entities form associations with other organizations unless the National Organization has approved of the association. Such approval is necessary for the protection of the name and reputation of DAV. Nothing in this article shall be construed to supersede or modify the provisions of Article 15, Section 15.3, of the DAV National Bylaws.

For purposes of this Article, "subordinate units" shall include, without limitation, departments, chapters and auxiliaries. "Affiliated entities" may include, without limitation, organizations created or controlled or supervised by subordinate units. Entities whose names or activities suggest an association with a subordinate unit may also be affiliated entities. The determination of whether a particular organization or entity is a subordinate unit or an affiliated entity shall be made by the National Judge Advocate, whose determination of such matters shall be final. A determination that an entity is an affiliated entity for purposes of this Article is not intended to be a determination that such entity is affiliated with a subordinate unit for tax, accounting or any other purposes.

Section 17.2 – Incorporation

Para. 1: Any subordinate unit or affiliated entity, that undertakes to incorporate or assume some legal status similar to incorporation must submit the proposed articles of incorporation or similar legal document and any associated bylaws or amendments to the respective DAV department judge advocate and National Judge Advocate for approval prior to filing and complying with state law. Such articles and bylaws must each contain the following provision or its substantial equivalent, unless the charitable trust laws of the particular state direct otherwise: This [corporation or other legal entity] affirms its obligation to fully comply with the present and future Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations and Rules, Directives and Mandates of Disabled American Veterans, a federally-chartered organization. This [corporation or other legal entity] acknowledges its allegiance and subordination to said organization. This [corporation or other legal entity] further acknowledges that upon dissolution or disassociation with DAV, the assets of the [corporation or other legal entity] will be distributed as mandated in the DAV National Bylaws."

All subordinate units and affiliated entities, regardless of whether or when incorporated, shall be deemed to have adopted and ratified the foregoing statement as a condition of continued existence as a subordinate unit or affiliated entity and, where applicable, as a condition of the continuing privilege of use of the DAV name.

Para. 2: Unless otherwise directed by the applicable state law, all members, directors and officers of any corporation or similar entity

described in Para. 1 shall be members in good standing of DAV.

Section 17.3 – Other Associations
Absent the written approval of the National Adjutant, no subordinate unit or affiliated entity may take or permit any action that suggests or indicates that the subordinate unit or affiliated entity endorses, is endorsed by or is associated with any non-DAV organization.

Article 18 – Accumulation of Funds

Section 18.1 – Definition of Terms

Para. 1: The "funds" referred to in this Article are the liquid assets of subordinate units.

Para. 2: "Service purposes" are budgetary projects recognized as service under these Bylaws, and Regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

Para. 3: "Expenses" as referred to in this Article shall not include those attributable to the conduct or operation of any fundraising project of a subordinate unit or its affiliate.

Section 18.2 – Restriction on Accumulation
Subordinate units may not accumulate funds, whether for service purposes or otherwise, in excess of three times the expenses of their last fiscal year.

Section 18.3 – Expenditure of Excess Funds

Para. 1: Subordinate units whose accumulated funds exceed the amount referred to in Section 18.2, above, must comply with this Article by expending such excess within a reasonable time, subject to the approval of the National Adjutant.

Para. 2: The expenditure of funds by subordinate units to accomplish compliance with this Article must be for service purposes, and is subject to the approval of the National Adjutant.

Article 19 – Miscellaneous

Section 19.1 – Corporate Organization; Dissolution; Nomenclature; Seal

Para. 1: This Corporation is not organized for profit. It shall issue no stock. No part of its net earnings shall inure to the benefit of any individual. No member shall have any pecuniary interest in any of the income, earnings, assets or property of this Corporation, nor shall any part thereof be withdrawn or distributed to any of its members.

Para. 2: Upon final dissolution or liquidation of this Corporation, and after the discharge or satisfaction of all outstanding obligations and liabilities, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a charitable corporation that a court of competent jurisdiction determines to have purposes closest to those of this Corporation.

Para. 3: The seal of this Corporation shall consist of two concentric circles, between which shall be the name of the Corporation, and in the center shall be inscribed: "Incorporated by Act of Congress, June 17, 1932."

Section 19.2 – Use of Members' Names and Addresses

The names and contact information of the members of the Disabled American Veterans and its Auxiliary, in whatever format, shall not be used for commercial purposes, in support of any partisan political action committee or for any political use, or for any purpose

other than one directly connected to the approved activities of the Organization. Nothing in this Paragraph shall prohibit their use in fundraising as permitted in this Constitution and Bylaws. Failure to comply with the provisions of this Paragraph may result in the imposition of penalties under Article 16 of these Bylaws, and to such other remedies as may be provided by law.

Section 19.3 – Rules of Order
All matters of procedure not otherwise provided for in these Bylaws shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

Section 19.4 – Certificate of Merit
The National Commander, on recommendation of a chapter or state department, may issue a Certificate of Merit for outstanding service to DAV.

Section 19.5 – Amendments of Bylaws
These Bylaws may be amended at any National Convention by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present and voting as prescribed by Convention Rule 21(d).

Section 19.6 – Captions
Other than the names of National Convention Committees in Article 3, Section 3.10, Rule 21, the title of, or headings to, any part of these Bylaws shall have no effect upon the construction or interpretation of any such part.

Section 19.7 – Definitions and Interpretation
Para. 1: The masculine gender, whenever used in the National Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations of

the National Executive Committee or DAV Ritual, shall include the feminine gender.

Para. 2: The words "state" or "states" include the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Para. 3: The words "subordinate unit" or "subordinate body" mean any organization of DAV or DAV Auxiliary members, or any organization using the name "Disabled American Veterans," "DAV," or any name which is similar thereto, but shall not include the National Organization, as defined below.

Para. 4: The words "National Organization" mean the Corporation incorporated by Act of Congress, at Title 36, Section 50301 et seq, of the United States Code.

Para. 5: The word "Organization" means the Disabled American Veterans in its totality, including but not limited to the National Organization, its departments, chapters, subordinate units, members and employees.

Para. 6: The words "National Headquarters" mean the principal offices of the National Organization.

Para. 7: The word "mandate" means a resolution or regulation consisting of an instruction or order, and having the same force and effect as a resolution or regulation.

REGULATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

The following Regulations have been adopted by the National Executive Committee ("NEC") under authority given to it by Article 4, Section 4.6, of the National Bylaws. References to "DAV" in these Regulations are to the National Organization unless otherwise indicated. All uses of the masculine gender in these Regulations are intended to be gender-neutral.

Regulation 1: Charters

No charters will be granted to foreign chapters, county councils or district councils.

Regulation 2: Contracts for Fundraising

(a): Requirements and Approval Process. A "fundraising contract" is any contract between a DAV subordinate unit and any other person or entity that directly or indirectly involves or relates to fundraising by or on behalf of the subordinate unit (such activity hereafter a "fundraising project"). All such contracts are subject to the prior approval of the NEC. The subordinate unit is responsible for ensuring that the fundraising project complies with all relevant laws and that any required filings with regulatory agencies have been made.

The proposed contract as well as any promotional, advertising or solicitation material (including any scripts) must be submitted to the National Executive Committee (c/o the National Adjutant at National Headquarters) at least sixty days prior to the anticipated effective date. If the fundraising project involves sponsors and/or endorsers not parties to the

contract, those must be disclosed to DAV at the time the contract is submitted for approval. Sponsors or endorsers who later join the fundraising project shall be similarly disclosed to DAV for approval. Such approval shall be at the discretion of DAV.

Fundraising contracts fall into one of two categories: (1) thrift store contracts and (2) other fundraising contracts.

(1) Thrift Store Contracts. "Thrift store contracts" are agreements between a DAV subordinate unit and any other party relating to the collection, resale and/or disposal of personal property solicited from donors in the name of DAV. Thrift store contracts are subject to the prior approval of the NEC. Thrift store contracts include, without limitation, thrift store management and lease agreements, as well as agreements to pay a commission or royalty on the sale of goods collected and sold. No thrift store contracts will be approved for a term of more than five years. No thrift store contracts that contain language providing for an automatic extension or renewal will be approved, and all thrift store contracts must provide for cancellation by either party, with or without cause, upon 180 days' written notice.

Thrift store management agreements will be reviewed to ensure that the subordinate unit is receiving an appropriate return for the use of the DAV name. Where a thrift store company operates a thrift store in the DAV name, the chapter or department must receive, at a minimum, a sum equal to 10 percent of the gross sales before any deductions of any kind, including deductions for management fees and overhead expenses.

(2) Other Fundraising Contracts. No fundraising contract except for thrift store contracts will be

approved for a term of more than one year. No contracts that contain language providing for an automatic extension or renewal will be approved. The National Adjutant is authorized to reject on behalf of the National Executive Committee any fundraising contract that does not provide at least 50 percent gross return to the DAV subordinate unit involved. The "50 percent rule" means that the contracting DAV unit must receive at least 50 percent of the gross revenue generated by the fundraising program.

(b): Required Contract Provision. In addition to any other requirement imposed by the DAV National Bylaws or the regulations or subsequent action of this Committee, all fundraising contracts formed by subordinate units must contain the following standard provision or its substantial equivalent:

All parties to this contract expressly agree and covenant that they will not seek from the DAV National Organization, through litigation or otherwise, any damages arising or alleged to arise from the performance or nonperformance of this contract. The DAV National Organization is not a party to this contract.

Regulation 3: Other Contracts

(a): Any DAV subordinate entity must receive prior, written approval from the National Executive Committee before entering into a business relationship with a government entity. As part of the approval process, the DAV subordinate entity must submit all relevant documentation concerning the proposed relationship for review by the National Executive Committee. Additionally, any proposed

funding given by a local government entity to a DAV subordinate entity must be restricted for use to support DAV's free programs of service. DAV subordinate entities are prohibited from entering any business relationship that involves the receipt of federal funds.

(b): General Rule. All contracts entered into by a subordinate unit, whether or not subject to approval by the National Executive Committee and including, without limitation, leases, contracts for the sale or purchase of real or personal property, and employment and consulting contracts, should advance and promote the purposes of DAV.

(c): Required Contract Provision. In addition to any other requirement imposed by the DAV National Bylaws or the Regulations or subsequent action of this Committee, all contracts formed by subordinate units must contain the following standard provision or its substantial equivalent:

All parties to this contract expressly agree and covenant that they will not seek from the DAV National Organization, through litigation or otherwise, any damages arising or alleged to arise from the performance or non-performance of this contract. The DAV National Organization is not a party to this contract.

Regulation 4: Bar, Lounge, Bingo or Thrift Operations

Effective July 1, 2024, if a bar, lounge, bingo operation, thrift store, or similar fundraiser, is operated by, or in the name of a subordinate entity of the Organization, the entity must provide, at minimum, ten (10) percent of the gross annual income derived from the operation to provide free

DAV programs of service. The subordinate unit is responsible for ensuring that the bar, lounge, bingo operation, thrift store, or similar fundraiser, complies with all relevant laws and that any required filings with regulatory agencies have been made. The National Commander may immediately terminate the subordinate entities' privilege to operate such a fundraiser, in accordance with Article 15, Section 15.6, Para. 5 of the National Bylaws, should it fail to meet this standard.

Regulation 5: Income from Fundraising

(a): Forget-Me-Nots. Income from Forget-Me-Not drives shall be used solely for service to disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors and for no other purpose.

(b): Other Fundraising. Income from approved department or chapter fundraising activities shall be used to support programs and activities sponsored by DAV, its subordinate units or other entities, as long as such programs and activities provide a direct and substantial benefit to disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors.

Regulation 6: Disciplinary Hearings and Appeals

(a): Hearings. Any hearing conducted under Article 16, Section 16.2, of the National Bylaws (hereafter "Hearing") shall be subject to these procedures. The intent of the Regulation is to provide the accused member with a full and fair opportunity to understand and respond to the charges. Depending upon whether the disciplinary proceeding was initiated by the National Commander or the state commander (either referred to as "Commander"), the Hearing will take

place before the National Executive Committee or the department executive committee as appropriate (either referred to as "Committee"). The following rules shall apply:

The Hearing shall be conducted before a quorum of the Committee.

The Commander shall preside at the hearing and make all decisions regarding procedure, as well as the admission and exclusion of evidence. Evidence shall be admitted or excluded based on relevance and reliability and not on the basis of technical rules of evidence. The National or state Judge Advocate, as appropriate, may provide guidance to the Commander during the course of the hearing.

The accused member may be represented by a person of his choice, as may the National Organization/state department. Each party shall pay any fees it incurs for such representation.

The entire Hearing, including voting, shall be transcribed by a licensed court reporter. A copy of the transcript shall be furnished to the accused member without charge as soon as practicable after its receipt.

Subject to the Commander's rulings on admissibility, both the accused member and the National Organization/state department shall have the right to introduce witnesses, as well as real and documentary evidence. Any witness permitted to testify may be cross-examined by the opposing party.

At the conclusion of the presentation of evidence and testimony the Committee shall vote separately on each charge brought against the member. If the member is found guilty on one or more charges by a majority of Committee members present, the Committee must then determine whether to

accept or modify the penalty recommended by the Commander.

(b): Appeals. The only disciplinary sanction that may be appealed is the penalty of expulsion if (a) imposed by the department executive committee and (b) affirmed by the National Commander. The appeal is to the NEC. Such an appeal must be filed as prescribed in the Bylaws within thirty days of the mailing to the expelled member of the National Commander's affirmation. The burden is on the expelled member to show that the expulsion decision is clearly erroneous. The appeal will be decided upon the evidence of record in the state department disciplinary hearing. The appellant may submit a written presentation to the Committee in support of the appeal. Such presentation may not exceed ten pages and may not include evidence that was not presented to the department executive committee. The written presentation should be clear and concise, but need not be a legal brief. There is no personal hearing on an appeal.

(c): Notifications. A member who is the subject of a disciplinary proceeding should receive prompt written notice of all developments in the matter including, without limitation, decisions on appeals.

Notices should also be furnished to the appropriate state department.

Regulation 7: Accumulation of Funds

Unrestricted funds held by the National Organization and its subordinate units shall be used in a manner reflecting consideration of current and future needs and resources in planning for program continuity. Subordinate units may not accumulate such funds, whether for service

purposes or otherwise, in excess of the amount prescribed in Article 18 of the National Bylaws. Requests for approval of fundraising projects will not be considered if a unit is holding accumulated funds in excess of that amount. Included in this calculation are building funds, foundations, trusts or other entities, which departments, chapters, and other subordinate units may have established under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code. For purposes of this regulation, "unrestricted funds" are monies the use of which is not subject to a specific limitation imposed by the National Bylaws or by a written directive from a person or entity unrelated to the subordinate entity holding the monies.

Regulation 8: Department Jurisdiction

Chapters within a state are under the jurisdiction of that state department. State departments are responsible not only for the enforcement of the department and chapter constitutions, bylaws and regulations, but also for the enforcement of the National Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations.

Regulation 9: Non-Discrimination Policy of DAV

The Disabled American Veterans has a non-discrimination policy whereby all requests for aid and assistance are given equal consideration without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, age or any other legally protected classification. Further, such non-discrimination policy applies to all qualified applicants for employment by DAV for all positions, and to all activities in which DAV has been engaged, is now engaged or in any way may be engaged at any time in the future.

Regulation 10: Mission Statement of DAV

We are dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish this by ensuring veterans and their families can access the full range of benefits available to them; fighting for the interests of America's injured heroes on Capitol Hill; and educating the public about the great sacrifices and needs of veterans transitioning back to civilian life. This mission is carried forward by: providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government; providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically; representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House and the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government; extending the DAV's mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of state-level departments and local chapters; and providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.

Regulation 11: Conflict of Interest Policy

This policy applies to members of the NEC ("Members"). Members are in a position to influence the actions of DAV with respect to matters decided by the NEC.

If a Member may, or will, receive a direct or indirect benefit from a particular motion decided by the Body as a whole, the Member has a conflict of interest. The benefit referred to may be financial or non-financial. An indirect benefit may be, but is not limited to, a benefit to a relative or business associate of the Member. An indirect benefit may also be one that flows to an organization in which the Member has an interest, financial or otherwise.

If a Member has a conflict of interest or believes that he may have such a conflict, the Member must fully disclose the conflict, or potential conflict, to the NEC at the earliest possible time and abstain from any involvement whatsoever in the resolution issue. This means that the Member may not discuss the issue with other NEC Members, may not be present during Committee consideration of the issue and may not vote on the issue. The minutes of the Committee meeting shall reflect that all of these safeguards were observed.

It is important to note that a Member should not participate in the review by the Committee of decisions of a department or chapter if the Member was directly involved in the original decision.

All Members covered by this policy should acknowledge receipt of a copy of it immediately upon assuming office and annually for as long as they serve on the NEC.

Regulation 12: Reimbursement of Department and Chapter Losses

This regulation implements the reimbursement mandated by Article 14, Section 14.9, of the DAV National Bylaws. The National Organization will reimburse a department or chapter up to $100,000

for the loss of assets resulting from theft by an elected or appointed department or chapter officer. All such reimbursements will be subject to a $5,000 deductible. Indirect losses are not eligible for reimbursement. Reimbursement is not available for any loss recovered or recoverable from any other source. All losses arising out of or related to a common design, plan or pattern of activity by one or more officers constitutes a single loss for the purpose of reimbursement.

No reimbursement will be made until a full and final adjudication of theft or conversion has been entered against the officer(s) involved and such judgment has either been upheld on appeal or is no longer subject to appeal. A determination made under Article 16 of the DAV National Bylaws shall not constitute a judgment for these purposes.

No reimbursement will be made unless the affected department or chapter notifies the National Adjutant within sixty (60) days of the time it first has reason to believe that it may have suffered a loss potentially eligible for reimbursement.

No reimbursement will be made unless the affected department or chapter cooperates fully with the National Organization with respect to investigation of any loss and action to limit the effect of such loss and/or to prevent similar future losses.

No reimbursement shall be made unless the affected department or chapter diligently pursues reimbursement from other sources through which such reimbursement is likely to be secured. Reimbursement shall be available if and only if the affected subordinate unit is in existence and in good standing at the time of eligibility for reimbursement.

The National Adjutant shall have final authority to determine eligibility for reimbursement.

Regulation 13: Donor Intent Policy

General Rule. All bequests and/or other testamentary gifts like IRAs, bank accounts, and life insurance policies regardless of size, type, or designation, must be submitted to the Bequests Reporting Program (BRP) to ensure distribution is pursuant to the donor's intent. It is the responsibility of all subordinate entities to promptly report all bequests received, or upon notification of a potential gift, to the BRP, by submitting an image of all paperwork or checks received to legaldepartment@dav.org.

Additionally, if a subordinate entity receives any donation and the payee is: Disabled American Veterans; DAV National Headquarters; or DAV, and the donor does not specify a Department, Chapter or Auxiliary entity, that entity is required to forward the donation to Remittance Processing at National Headquarters. Conversely, if National Headquarters receives a donation intended for a Department, Chapter or Auxiliary entity, Remittance Processing will distribute the funds accordingly, in alignment with the donor's expressed wishes. *(Effective 05/01/25)*

ADDRESSES FOR READY REFERENCE

Administrative
National Adjutant, DAV National Headquarters,
860 Dolwick Drive, Erlanger, KY 41018

Washington Headquarters
National Adjutant, DAV Washington Headquarters,
1300 I Street NW, Suite 400W, Washington, DC 20005

DAV Auxiliary
National Adjutant, DAV Auxiliary
860 Dolwick Drive, Erlanger, KY 41018

Applicants needing assistance with their VA claims can visit the National Service Officers in the VA Regional Offices and VA Centers where their cases are located. Locations may also be found online at **www.dav.org/veterans/find-your-local-office**

Alabama
VA Regional Office, 345 Perry Hill Rd.,
Room 1–116, Montgomery, AL 36109

Alaska
VA Regional Office, 1201 N. Muldoon Rd.,
Room 2A210, Anchorage, AK 99504

Arizona
VA Regional Office, 3333 N. Central Ave.,
Suite 1053, Phoenix, AZ 85012

Arkansas
VARO, Bldg. 111, 2200 Fort Roots Dr., (VAMC),
Room 124, North Little Rock, AR 72114

California
VARO Federal Bldg., 11000 Wilshire Blvd.,
Room 509, W. Los Angeles, CA 90024

VARO Oakland Federal Bldg., 1301 Clay St.,
North Tower, Room 1110, Oakland, CA 94612

VARO, 3046 Prospect Park Dr., Room 116,
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

VA Regional Office, 8620 Spectrum Center Blvd.,
Suite 721, San Diego, CA 92123

Colorado
VARO, 155 Van Gordon St., P.O. Box 25126,
Denver, CO 80225

Connecticut
VA Medical Center, Bldg. 2E, 5th Floor, Room 5137,
555 Willard Ave., Newington, CT 06111

Delaware
VA Medical & Regional Office Center,
1601 Kirkwood Hwy., Bldg. 13 Room 111G,
Wilmington, DE 19805

District of Columbia
VA Regional Office, 1722 I St. NW, Room 210,
Washington, DC 20421

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center,
9080 Beale Road, Building 62, Room 2029,
Bethesda, MD 20889

Florida
VA Regional Office, 9500 Bay Pines Blvd., Room 232,
Bay Pines, FL 33744

Georgia
VA Regional Office, 1700 Clairmont Rd.,
Decatur, GA 30033

Hawaii
VAMROC, E-Wing, 459 Patterson Rd.,
Room 1-C102, Honolulu, HI 96819

Idaho
VA Regional Office, 444 W. Fort St., Room 143,
Boise, ID 83702

Illinois
VA Regional Office, 2122 W. Taylor St., Suite 104,
Chicago, IL 60612

Indiana
VARO Federal Bldg., 575 N. Pennsylvania St.,
Room 324, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Iowa
VA Regional Office, 566 Federal Bldg.,
210 Walnut St., Des Moines, IA 50309

Kansas
VA Regional Office, 9111 E. Douglas, Suite 200,
Room 210, Wichita, KS 67207

Kentucky
VA Regional Office, 321 W. Main St., Suite 390,
Room 322, Louisville, KY 40202

National Service Office, 860 Dolwick Drive,
Erlanger, KY 41018

Louisiana
VA Regional Office, 1250 Poydras St., Room 200,
New Orleans, LA 70113

Maine
VARO — Medical Center, 1 VA Center, Bldg. 248,
Room 113, Route 17 East, Togus, ME 04330

Maryland
VA Regional Office, Federal Bldg., 31 Hopkins Plaza,
Room G607, Baltimore, MD 21201

Massachusetts
VA Regional Office, JFK Federal Bldg.,
Government Center, 15 New Sudbury Street,
Room 1575B, Boston, MA 02203

Michigan
VA Regional Office, McNamara Federal Bldg.,
477 Michigan Ave., Room 1234, Detroit, MI 48226

Minnesota
Bishop Henry Whipple Federal Bldg., 1 Federal Dr.,
Room G-100, Fort Snelling, MN 55111

Mississippi
VA Regional Office, 1600 E. Woodrow Wilson Ave.,
Room 113, Jackson, MS 39216

Missouri
VA Regional Office, 9700 Page Ave., Suite 101,
Room 1–096, St. Louis, MO 63132

Montana
VA Regional Office, 3633 Veterans Dr., Suite 110 B,
P.O. Box 189, Fort Harrison, MT 59636

Nebraska
VA Regional Office, 3800 Village Dr.,
Lincoln, NE 68516

Nevada
VA Regional Office, 5460 Reno Corporate Dr.,
Room 106, Reno, NV 89511

DAV — PECOS, North Las Vegas VA Hospital,
6900 N. Pecos Rd., North Las Vegas, NV 89086

New Hampshire
VARO — Norris Cotton Federal Bldg.,
275 Chestnut St., Room 522, Manchester, NH 03101

New Jersey
VA Regional Office, 20 Washington Place,
Newark, NJ 07102

New Mexico
VA Regional Office, 500 Gold Ave. SW,
Room 3116, Albuquerque, NM 87102

New York
VA Regional Office, 245 W. Houston St.,
New York, NY 10014

VA Regional Office, 130 S. Elmwood Ave.,
Suite 620, Buffalo, NY 14202

North Carolina
VARO Federal Bldg., 251 N. Main St., Room 151,
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

North Dakota
VA Regional Office, 2101 N. Elm, Room 206,
Fargo, ND 58102

Ohio
VA Regional Office, 1240 E. 9th St., Room 1017B,
Cleveland, OH 44199

Oklahoma
VA Regional Office, 125 S. Main St., Room 119,
Muskogee, OK 74401

Oregon
VA Regional Office, 100 SW Main St., Floor 2,
Room 212A, Portland, OR 97204

Pennsylvania
Disabled American Veterans, 5000 Wissahickon
Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

VA Regional Office, 1000 Liberty Ave., Room 1606,
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Puerto Rico
VARO (Station 355), 50 Carr 165,
Guaynabo, PR 00968

Rhode Island
VA Regional Office, 380 Westminster Mall,
Providence, RI 02903

South Carolina
Disabled American Veterans, 6437 Garners Ferry
Rd., Room 1129, Columbia, SC 29209

South Dakota
VA Regional Office, 2501 W. 22nd St., Room 101
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Tennessee
VA Regional Office, 7100 Commerce Way,
Suite 100, Brentwood, TN 37027

Texas
VA Regional Office, One Veterans Plaza,
701 Clay Ave., Waco, TX 76799

VA Regional Office, 6900 Almeda Rd., Room 1033,
Houston, TX 77030

N.W. Health Care Center, 9939 State Hwy 151,
3rd Floor 3C100, San Antonio, TX 78251

Utah
VA Regional Office, 550 Foothill Dr., Suite 105,
Salt Lake City, UT 84113

Vermont
VA Medical Center & Regional Office,
215 N. Main St., White River Jct., VT 05009

Virginia
VA Regional Office Federal Bldg., 210 Franklin Rd.
SW, Room 808, Roanoke, VA 24011

Washington
VA Regional Office Federal Bldg., 915 2nd Ave.,
Room 1040, Seattle, WA 98174

West Virginia
VA Regional Office, 640 4th Ave., Room 138,
Huntington, WV 25701

Wisconsin
VARO, Room 162, 5400 W. National Ave.,
Milwaukee, WI 53214-3461

Wyoming
VA Medical & Regional Office Ctr.,
2360 E. Pershing Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82001

PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS

First Convention June 28–30, 1921 Detroit, Michigan	Judge Robert S. Marx Cincinnati, Ohio
Second Convention June 26–30, 1922 San Francisco, California	Capt. C. Hamilton Cook Buffalo, New York
Third Convention June 25–30, 1923 Minneapolis, Minnesota	James A. McFarland Dalton, Georgia
Fourth Convention June 23–28, 1924 Salt Lake City, Utah	Frank J. Irwin New York City, New York
Fifth Convention June 22–27, 1925 Omaha, Nebraska	John W. Mahan Bozeman, Montana
Sixth Convention June 21–28, 1926 Atlanta, Georgia	Gen. John V. Clinnin Chicago, Illinois
Seventh Convention June 20–25, 1927 El Paso, Texas	William E. Tate Atlanta, Georgia
Eighth Convention June 25–30, 1928 Denver, Colorado	Millard W. Rice Minneapolis, Minnesota
Ninth Convention June 23–28, 1929 Detroit, Michigan	William J. Murphy Santa Ana, California
Tenth Convention June 23–28, 1930 New Orleans, Louisiana	Capt. H. H. Weimer Chicago, Illinois
Eleventh Convention June 22–27, 1931 Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania	E. Claude Babcock Washington, D.C.

Twelfth Convention June 20–25, 1932 San Diego, California	William Conley Los Angeles, California
Thirteenth Convention June 24–July 1, 1933 Cincinnati, Ohio	Joe W. McQueen Kansas City, Missouri
Fourteenth Convention June 30–July1, 1934 Colorado Springs, Colorado	Volney P. Mooney, Jr. Los Angeles, California
Fifteenth Convention July 14–19, 1935 New Haven, Connecticut	Marvin A. Harlan El Paso, Texas
Sixteenth Convention July 20–25, 1936 Milwaukee, Wisconsin	M. Froome Barbour Cincinnati, Ohio
Seventeenth Convention July 31–August 7, 1937 Columbus, Ohio	Maple T. Harl Denver, Colorado
Eighteenth Convention August 13–20, 1938 Grand Rapids, Michigan	Owen Galvin Minneapolis, Minnesota
Nineteenth Convention July 30–August, 1939 Boston, Massachusetts	Lewis J. Murphy South Bend, Indiana
Twentieth Convention August 24–31, 1940 Green Bay, Wisconsin	Vincent E. Schoeck Detroit, Michigan
Twenty-first Convention August 9–16, 1941 Louisville, Kentucky	Laurence R. Melton Dallas, Texas
Twenty-second Convention 1942 Conv. Postponed	William J. Dodd August 15–Sept. 20, 1943 Jersey City, New Jersey

Twenty-second Convention September 17–20, 1943 New York City, New York	J. L. Monnahan Minneapolis, Minnesota
Twenty-third Convention September 12–15, 1944 Denver, Colorado	Milton D. Cohn Buffalo, New York
Twenty-fourth Convention October 19–23, 1945 Chicago, Illinois	Dow V. Walker Newport, Oregon
Twenty-fifth Convention September 2–6, 1946 Portland, Oregon	Lloyd F. Oleson Ventura, California
Twenty-sixth Convention August 17–23, 1947 Las Vegas, Nevada	John L. Golob Hibbing, Minnesota
Twenty-seventh Convention August 15–21, 1948 New York City, New York	Gen. Jonathan M. Wainwright San Antonio, Texas
Twenty-eighth Convention August 14–20, 1949 Cleveland, Ohio	David M. Brown Akron, Ohio
Twenty-ninth Convention August 13–20, 1950 San Francisco, California	Boniface R. Maile Grosse Pointe, Michigan
Thirtieth Convention August 12–18, 1951 Milwaukee, Wisconsin	Ewing W. Mays Little Rock, Arkansas
Thirty-first Convention August 10–16, 1952 Boston, Massachusetts	Floyd L. Ming Bakersfield, California
Thirty-second Convention August 23–29, 1953 Kansas City, Missouri	Howard W. Watts Indianapolis, Indiana

Thirty-third Convention August 15–20, 1954 Miami Beach, Florida	Judge Alfred L. English Shelbyville, Tennessee
Thirty-fourth Convention August 14–20, 1955 Des Moines, Iowa	Gen. Melvin J. Maas Chevy Chase, Maryland
Thirty-fifth Convention August 19–25, 1956 San Antonio, Texas	Joseph L. Burke Bayonne, New Jersey
Thirty-sixth Convention August 18–24, 1957 Buffalo, New York	Paul E. Frederick, Jr. Cincinnati, Ohio
Thirty-seventh Convention August 10–16, 1958 Louisville, Kentucky	David B. Williams Boston, Massachusetts
Thirty-eighth Convention August 16–22, 1959 Miami Beach, Florida	Bill H. Fribley Crestline, Kansas
Thirty-ninth Convention August 21–27, 1960 Seattle, Washington	W. O. Cooper Dallas, Texas
Fortieth Convention August 23–26, 1961 St. Louis, Missouri	Francis R. Buono Whitestone, L.I., New York
Forty-first Convention August 20–24, 1962 Atlantic City, New Jersey	Peter L. Dye Denver, Colorado
Forty-second Convention August 19–25, 1963 Miami Beach, Florida	Douglas H. McGarrity Allen Park, Michigan
Forty-third Convention August 17–21, 1964 Phoenix, Arizona	William G. Dwyer San Diego, California

Forty-fourth Convention August 1–6, 1965 New Orleans, Louisiana	Claude L. Callegary Baltimore, Maryland
Forty-fifth Convention August 8–12, 1966 New York City, New York	John W. Unger, Sr. Danville, Illinois
Forty-sixth Convention July 31–August 4, 1967 Denver, Colorado	Francis J. Beaton Fargo, North Dakota
Forty-seventh Convention August 18–23, 1968 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Wayne L. Sheirbon Seattle, Washington
Forty-eighth Convention August 25–29, 1969 Miami Beach, Florida	Raymond P. Neal Daly City, California
Forty-ninth Convention July 26–August 1, 1970 Los Angeles, California	Cecil W. Stevenson Jonesboro, Arkansas
Fiftieth Convention August 8–13, 1971 Detroit, Michigan	Edward T. Conroy Bowie, Maryland
Fifty-first Convention August 21–25, 1972 St. Louis, Missouri	Jack O. Hicks La Rue, Ohio
Fifty-second Convention August 12–18, 1973 Miami Beach, Florida	John T. Soave East Detroit, Michigan
Fifty-third Convention August 4–10, 1974 New Orleans, Louisiana	Walter T. Greaney Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts
Fifty-fourth Convention August 31–Sept. 3, 1975 Honolulu, Hawaii	Lyle C. Pearson North Mankato, Minnesota

Fifty-fifth Convention August 1–5, 1976 Miami Beach, Florida	Frank J. Randazzo East Meadow, New York
Fifty-sixth Convention July 10–14, 1977 Las Vegas, Nevada	Oliver E. Meadows Godley, Texas
Fifty-seventh Convention August 13–17, 1978 San Francisco, California	Billy O. Hightower Grand Junction, Colorado
Fifty-eighth Convention July 15–19, 1979 Boston, Massachusetts	Paul L. Thompson Baltimore, Maryland
Fifty-ninth Convention July 25–28, 1980 Honolulu, Hawaii	Stan Pealer Holts Summit, Missouri
Sixtieth Convention July 12–16, 1981 Miami Beach, Florida	Sherman E. Roodzant Santa Ana, California
Sixty-first Convention July 18–22, 1982 Las Vegas, Nevada	Edward G. Galian New York, New York
Sixty-second Convention July 31–August 4, 1983 Los Angeles, California	Dennis A. Joyner Apollo, Pennsylvania
Sixty-third Convention August 26–30, 1984 Washington, D.C.	Chad Colley Barling, Arkansas
Sixty-fourth Convention July 21–25, 1985 New Orleans, Louisiana	Albert H. Linden, Jr. Camp Springs, Maryland
Sixty-fifth Convention July 20–24, 1986 Reno, Nevada	Kenneth G. Musselmann Huntington Beach, California

Sixty-sixth Convention August 16–20, 1987 Atlanta, Georgia	Gene A. Murphy Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Sixty-seventh Convention July 24–28, 1988 Dallas, Texas	Billy E. Kirby Clifton, Texas
Sixty-eighth Convention July 30–August 3, 1989 Las Vegas, Nevada	Vernon V. Cardosi Saugus, Massachusetts
Sixty-ninth Convention July 28–August 2, 1990 Anaheim, California	Joseph E. Andry Westerville, Ohio
Seventieth Convention July 27–August 1, 1991 New Orleans, Louisiana	Cleveland Jordan Washington, D.C.
Seventy-first Convention August 1–6, 1992 Reno, Nevada	Joseph C. Zengerle Washington, D.C.
Seventy-second Convention August 14–19, 1993 San Francisco, California	Richard E. Marbes Green Bay, Wisconsin
Seventy-third Convention August 20–25, 1994 Chicago, Illinois	Donald A. Sioss Miller Place, New York
Seventy-fourth Convention July 22–27, 1995 Las Vegas, Nevada	Thomas A. McMasters, III Sterling Heights, Michigan
Seventy-fifth Convention July 27–August 1, 1996 New Orleans, Louisiana	Gregory C. Reed Indianapolis, Indiana
Seventy-sixth Convention August 16–21, 1997 Las Vegas, Nevada	Harry R. McDonald, Jr. Crestview, Florida

Seventy-seventh Convention August 21–25, 1998 Las Vegas, Nevada	Andrew A. Kistler Franklin, Pennsylvania
Seventy-eighth Convention August 21–25, 1999 Orlando, Florida	Michael E. Dobmeier Grand Forks, North Dakota
Seventy-ninth Convention August 19–24, 2000 Reno, Nevada	Armando C. Albarran San Antonio, Texas
Eightieth Convention July 28–August 2, 2001 Miami Beach, Florida	George H. Steese, Jr. Fresno, California
Eighty-first Convention August 10–14, 2002 Dallas, Texas	Edward R. Heath, Sr. Mechanic Falls, Maine
Eighty-second Convention August 16–19, 2003 New Orleans, Louisiana	Alan W. Bowers Royalston, Massachusetts
Eighty-third Convention July 31–August 3, 2004 Reno, Nevada	James E. Sursely Apopka, Florida
Eighty-fourth Convention August 14–17, 2005 Las Vegas, Nevada	Paul W. Jackson Colorado Springs, Colorado
Eighty-fifth Convention August 12–15, 2006 Chicago, Illinois	Bradley S. Barton Tualatin, Oregon
Eighty-sixth Convention August 11–14, 2007 New Orleans, Louisiana	Robert T. Reynolds Alexandria, Virginia
Eighty-seventh Convention August 9–12, 2008 Las Vegas, Nevada	Raymond E. Dempsey Des Plaines, Illinois

Eighty-eighth Convention August 22–25, 2009 Denver, Colorado	Roberto Barrera Del Rio, Texas
Eighty-ninth Convention July 31–August 2, 2010 Atlanta, Georgia	Wallace E. Tyson Fayetteville, North Carolina
Ninetieth Convention August 6–9, 2011 New Orleans, Louisiana	Donald L. Samuels Gallatin, Tennessee
Ninety-first Convention August 4–7, 2012 Las Vegas, Nevada	Larry A. Polzin Sylmar, California
Ninety-second Convention August 10–13, 2013 Orlando, Florida	Joseph W. Johnston Williamsburg, Ohio
Ninety-third Convention August 9–12, 2014 Las Vegas, Nevada	Ron F. Hope Clemmons, North Carolina
Ninety-fourth Convention August 8–11, 2015 Denver, Colorado	Moses A. McIntosh, Jr. Hephzibah, Georgia
Ninety-fifth Convention July 31–August 3, 2016 Atlanta, Georgia	David W. Riley Semmes, Alabama
Ninety-sixth Convention July 29–August 1, 2017 New Orleans, Louisiana	Delphine Metcalf-Foster Vallejo, California
Ninety-seventh Convention July 14–17, 2018 Reno, Nevada	Dennis R. Nixon China Spring, Texas
Ninety-eighth Convention August 3–6, 2019 Orlando, Florida	Stephen Whitehead Rosemount, Minnesota

Ninety-ninth Convention 2020 Conv. Postponed	Stephen Whitehead Rosemount, Minnesota
Ninety-ninth Convention July 31–August 3, 2021 Tampa, Florida	Andrew Marshall Palm Harbor, Florida
One-hundredth Convention August 6–9, 2022 Orlando, Florida	Joe Parsetich Great Falls, Montana
One hundred-first Convention August 5–8, 2023 Atlantic City, New Jersey	Nancy Espinosa Kaysville, Utah
One hundred-second Convention August 3–6, 2024 Phoenix, Arizona	Daniel Contreras Sherman Oaks, California
One hundred-third Convention August 9–12, 2025 Las Vegas, Nevada	Coleman Nee South Yarmouth, Massachusetts
One hundred-fourth Convention August 1–4, 2026 Orlando, Florida	John Donovan Conway, Arkansas

NATIONAL ADJUTANTS

Raymond A. Lasance
1921–1924

Oliver S. Perry
1924–1925

Vivian D. Corbly
1925–1958

John E. Feighner
1958–1962

Denvel D. Adams
1962–1988

Charles E. Joeckel, Jr.
1988–1993

Denvel D. Adams
1993–1994

Arthur H. Wilson
1994–2013

J. Marc Burgess
2013–2023

Barry A. Jesinoski
2023–present

INDEX

A

ABSENTEE BALLOT, Voting by, prohibited 11, 39
ACCUMULATION OF FUNDS
by subordinate units 73, 83
ADVISOR, National Convention Committees 13, 16
AIDES, to National Commander 30
ALLEGIANCE, by subordinate units 47, 71, 72
ALTERNATES
to Delegates to National Convention 8, 10, 15
to National Executive Committeemen 20, 34
AMENDMENT
of National Bylaws 75
of Rules of National Convention 19
APPEAL, by member 70, 83
APPOINTED NATIONAL OFFICERS, ... 29
Term of Office 33
ASSIGNMENT & COORDINATION, Committee on 13, 16
AT-LARGE CHAPTERS 27, 40
AUDITS,
by order of National Commander 66
AUXILIARIES
Charters of 44
Recognition of 4

B

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 55
Duties 55
Election 55
Meetings 57
Members 55
Vacancies 56
BONDING, the National Organization

Fidelity 59
BUDGET, of National Organization 57
BYLAWS, Department 38
Chapter 40

C

CERTIFICATE, of Merit by National Organization 75
CHAPLAIN, duties of 32
CHAPTERS
Composition of. 40
Constitution & Bylaws. 40
Name 44
Officers 41
Records, Reports 42
CHARTERS, Granting of 23, 77
Suspension & Revocation of. 24
CHIEF OF STAFF, National 30
COMMITTEES, of National Convention. 16
Interim. 35
CONSTITUTION 1
Amendment of Constitution 4
Chapter 40
Department. 38
Power to adopt 2
CONTRACTS, fundraising. 64, 77, 78
CONVENTION, National 8
Department. 39
CORPORATE ORGANIZATION, Nature of. 74
COUNTY COUNCILS, as subordinate units 28, 77
Powers 40
CREDENTIALS, issuance, form of 10

D

DAV AUXILIARY 4, 28, 44, 47, 54, 59, 62, 65, 76
Fundraising 62, 63, 64, 65
Units thereof, disposition of assets on dissolution 28
DEFINITION, of terms 73, 75
DELEGATES
Number and Election 9
Voting by, National Convention 10, 11
DEPARTMENTS 24
as Governing Body 35
Bylaws 38
Convention 39
Officers of 36
Powers, Legislative 35
Records, Reports 37
DEPOSITORIES, designation of 58
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, use of name 65
DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS, members 67
DISSOLUTION, of National Organization 74
DISTRICTS, National 22
Departments in 24
Meetings of 21, 23
DUES, amount 52
Distribution 53
DURING TIME OF WAR, defined 49

E

ELECTION, of National Executive Committee 20
of Board of Directors 55
ELIGIBILITY, definition 48
EMPLOYEES, of National Organization 54
Preferences for Hiring 54
Salaries 54
EXECUTIVE SESSIONS, NEC 19

EXPENSES, defined, for subordinate units 73
Travel, Per diem and Actual 60
EXPULSION, from Membership 68, 70

F

FEES, for services rendered, prohibited 63
Registration at National Convention. 9
FINANCES, of National Organization, generally 57
Statements 58
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Audits. 45, 66
Printing of 58
FISCAL (ACCOUNTING) YEAR
Departments 38
FISCAL YEAR, NATIONAL, defined 57
FORGET-ME-NOT, Drives 63, 81
Purchase of 59
FUNDRAISING, generally 62, 77
Chapters, DAV Auxiliary 62, 63, 64
Departments 61
Income, use of. 64, 81
Penalties. 66
Territorial jurisdiction. 62, 63, 65

G

GENDER, Inclusive of Feminine 75

H

HEARINGS, for members. 69, 81

I

INCORPORATIONS, AFFILIATIONS AND OTHER
ASSOCIATIONS 71
INSPECTION, of records of subordinate body 66

Records, Who may inspect 5
INSPECTOR GENERAL, Appointment 31
Duties. 33
INTERIM COMMITTEES 35
INVESTMENT, of National Funds 58

L

LEGISLATIVE, Activities 7
LIFE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM & FUND
Distributions from 53
Investment. 59
LOANS, by the National Organization 59

M

MAIL BALLOTS 21
MANDATES, duration of 8
MEETINGS, NEC 21
MEMBERSHIP, Definition 47
Duration 50
Eligibility, Generally 48
Eligibility to Office. 51
Expulsion, etc. 67, 69, 70, 81
Member for life. 53
Multiple 51
Recruitment 54
Rights & Privileges. 51
Transfers 52
MEMBERSHIP YEAR, defined 57
MISSION STATEMENT 85

N

NAME AND SYMBOLS OF ORGANIZATION
Protection of 65
NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS,

Protection of 74
NATIONAL ADJUTANT
Appointment of 29
Authority 60, 61
Duties 30
Salary 54
NATIONAL CHAPLAIN
Duties 32
NATIONAL COMMANDER
Duties 30
Expenses 54
NATIONAL CONVENTION
Authority 8
Composition, Fees 8
Mandates, Resolutions 8
Rules of 11
NATIONAL EMPLOYEES. *See* EMPLOYEES, of National Organization
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Authority 5
Creation of 3
Election of Members to 20
Meetings of 21
Powers 22
Regulations. *See* REGULATIONS
Who are Members 20
NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE
Duties 31
Power 32
NATIONAL OFFICER
Bylaw provisions for 29
Election of, when 3, 29
Number and names of 3, 30
NOMINATIONS 15, 19

O

OFFENSES, subject to penalties. 67, 69, 70
OFFICER, of the Day. 32
OFFICERS, Elected National 4, 29

P

PENALTIES, for specified offenses 70
PER DIEM EXPENSES 60
POLICY
- Legislative Activities 7
- Nonpartisanship. 6
- Statement of Policy 5

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES 7
POWERS, Supreme, of Organization 8
PROXY, Voting by, prohibited 11, 39
PURCHASES, from National Organization 59
PURPOSE, of DAV. 1

R

RECORD KEEPING, inspection of. 5
REGISTRATION, Fees at National Convention 9
REGULATIONS
- Accumulation of Funds. 83
- Bar, Lounge or Bingo Operation 80
- Charters. 77
- Conflict of Interest Policy 85
- Contracts for Fundraising. 77, 78, 79
- Department Jurisdiction. 84
- Disciplinary Hearing and Appeals. 81, 83
- Income from Fundraising. 81
- Mission Statement of DAV 85
- Non-Discrimination Policy of DAV 84
- Reimbursement of Losses 86, 88
- Thrift Store Contracts 78

REGULATORY AGENCIES, guidelines of 64
REIMBURSEMENT OF FUNDS. 61, 86, 87, 88
REMOVAL
of National Executive Committee members 33
of National Officers 31, 33
RESOLUTIONS
Duration of 8
Submission of 12
REVOCATION, of charters 23, 24, 26, 27, 47
ROLL CALLS 15
RULES
Amendment of 19
of National Convention. 11
RULES OF ORDER 11, 75

S

SAFEGUARDING DAV ASSETS. 60
SEAL, of Corporate Organization 74
SERGEANT AT ARMS, National 16, 30, 32
STATE DEPARTMENTS. *See* DEPARTMENTS
SUPPLIES, Purchases from National 59
SUSPENSION, of charters 24, 25, 27, 47

T

TERM OF OFFICE
Appointive. 34
Elective 33
THRIFT STORE CONTRACTS 64, 78
TIME AND PLACE, National Convention 8
TIME OF WAR, defined 49
TRANSFERS, of Membership 52, 70
TRAVEL EXPENSE 60
TRUSTEESHIP. 25, 27

U

UNIFORM, wearing of 63
UNIT RULE, of Voting, prohibited 11, 39
USE OF MEMBERS' NAMES 74

National Headquarters
860 Dolwick Drive
Erlanger, KY 41018
859-441-7300
Toll-Free 877-426-2838

Washington Headquarters
1300 I Street NW, Suite 400W
Washington, DC 20005
202-554-3501

DAV.ORG

KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO
AMERICA'S VETERANS

901300 (8/26)