



**HEADQUARTERS  
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S. INC  
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1**

Series 2017 - 2018

July 2017

**(To be read or distributed at a regular Post meeting and filed)**

1. Having been elected Commander of the Department of Missouri and been duly installed in accordance with the By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby assume command.

2. The following Department Officers have been duly elected and installed at the 97th VFW Department of Missouri Convention:

COMMANDER:	Ruben Armenta
SR VICE COMMANDER:	Jim Thorpe
JR VICE COMMANDER:	Lance Kellogg
QUARTERMASTER:	Chris Bell
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Nancy Cowan
SURGEON:	Troy Williams
CHAPLAIN:	Deborah Halter
PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER:	Chris Johnston
NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER	Phil Pippins

3. The following District Commanders have been duly elected and installed were obligated to the Council:

District 1	Don Brockmeier	District 9	Charles Williams
District 2	Paul Ziegler	District 12	Anthony Laprocina
District 3	Robert Kirtley	District 14	Louis Thompson
District 5	James Nail	District 15	Joseph Mohorc II
District 6	Michael Fisk	District 17	Don Sutton
District 7	Amy Donaldson	District 18	Russell Olewinski
District 8	Quincy Myrick		

4. All previous appointments, except Service Officers and VAVS Representatives and their Deputies, are declared null and void and the following appointments are announced:

ADJUTANT:	Bob Wonnell
CHIEF OF STAFF:	Kenneth Cole
INSPECTOR:	Paul Frampton
MEMBERSHIP:	Jim Thorpe
COMMUNITY SERVICE:	Lance Kellogg

LEGISLATIVE / PAC / ACTION CORPS:	Charlie Dickinson
VETERAN SERVICE INFORMATION OFFICER :	Larry Phillips
EMPLOYMENT & HOMELESS VETERANS:	Dennis Sweet
CITIZENSHIP/AMERICANISM:	Troy Williams
PUBLIC RELATIONS:	Ken Allison
POW/MIA:	Joseph Cerchi
BUDDY POPPY:	Jeff Heise
NATIONAL HOME:	Marilynn Archuleta
VOICE OF DEMOCRACY /PATRIOTS PEN:	Aydogan Girgin
VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT:	Nancy Cowan
STUDENT VETERAN COORDINATOR:	Eric Sullivan
NATIONAL SCOUTING TEAM REP:	David Cartner
DEPARTMENT MEETINGS:	Randy Bartholome
MOTORCYCLE ASSOC. CO-CAPTAIN:	Mel Brinkley
MOTORCYCLE ASSOC. CO-CAPTAIN:	Don Harris
WEBMASTER:	Iris Joe Kelley
MISSOURIAN EDITOR:	Bob Wonnell
ASST. CHIEF OF STAFF:	Earl Boyer
OFFICER OF THE DAY:	Richard Jacobs
SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Charles Barlar
ASST. SERGEANT AT ARMS:	Walter Bequette

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Chairman: Don Hentges,  
Members: Norman Morgan, Phil Kalaf

State Commander Ruben Armenta extends congratulations and best wishes for a successful year.

5. Reminder to Post Commanders: The National By-Laws and the Missouri All-State Program require the Post Commander or a Post Representative to attend all meetings called by the District Commander. **This includes Schools of Instruction.**

6. Posts that have not submitted an election report will be receiving a letter from the Department Commander placing the Post on suspension. **If your Post has not submitted their report, do so ASAP.** Fax a copy of your election report to 1-573-636-2664 or mail a copy to: P.O. Box 26, Jefferson City, MO 65102. The original should be submitted on-line via the National Website at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Contact Department Headquarters if you need a blank form, 1-888-276-8609. If you are not familiar with submittal on-line, fax or mail the completed form to Department Headquarters and we will enter it for you. **If you have submitted an incomplete form, you will need to contact National to make the additions or submit a new report on-line.**

The following Posts have not submitted an election report to National as of 6-21-2017:

<u>Post</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dist</u>
741	Excelsior Springs	3
5329	Albany	3
7158	Cameron	3

4347	Drexel	6
4367	Slater	6
8820	Montrose	6
534	Joplin	7
2664	Liberal	7
4539	Eolia	17
8177	Clarence	17

7. New Orleans, LA, is the host city to the 118th VFW National Convention, July 22-26, 2017. Convention housing reservation forms and additional 118th VFW National Convention information was included in your packet from National Headquarters and is available on the National Website. Convention registration and related information has been mailed from National Headquarters to the Post. The Post is required to register at least one delegate. The Delegate fee for the 1<sup>st</sup> delegate will be \$25. A fee of \$10 is due for each additional delegate. **Post Quartermasters, please send in the \$25.00 registration fee and register at least one (1) delegate as soon as you receive the registration forms. Don't wait until July to send in your delegate fee.**

8. Delegates to the National Convention should have been elected at the last meeting in June; one delegate and one alternate for each thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of election.

9. Pursuant to Article II, Section 222, paragraph (d), of the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedures, all Posts are required to register and pay for at least one delegate to the National Convention whether or not anyone from the Post will be attending. Forms were mailed out in February.

10. Reminder to Posts and Districts: The Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Scholarship program needs your support. Department needs Posts or Auxiliaries to (co)sponsor scholarships. Please forward \$500.00 to Department Headquarters prior to September 30, 2017. Payments will be accepted in full amount or monthly installments. Scholarships will be paid out over a five year period to district winners. Scholarship sponsor's name(s) will be listed in the banquet program each year.

11. All Posts are required to file a Federal Income Tax return. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Posts may obtain forms 990EZ, 990 and/or 990T from any IRS Office, or online at <http://www.irs.gov>. **Posts with a year end of 30 June must file with the IRS prior to 15 November 2015, (most posts have a year end of 30 June).** If your gross income (from all sources) is less than \$50,000.00 per year, you will file the form 990N online from now on. Go online to the IRS site, <http://www.egpostcard.form99.org/> and follow the three (3) steps to sign up and file. **Failure to file will result in the loss of your tax exempt status.**

12. The annual trip to the National Home for Children will be 27 & 29 October. **We are asking every post to provide a tentative headcount to the National Home Chairman so she can reserve a block of hotel rooms.** The cost to participate is \$185 per person. Typically, posts have paid for the cost of their commander and guest to go on the trip. We're asking that you would continue this tradition. This is one of the most important and enduring programs supported by the VFW. Deadline to sign-up is 1 October. For further information, contact Marilyn Archuleta at 660-473-3223, or e-mail: [natlhomechrm@mo.vfwwebmail.com](mailto:natlhomechrm@mo.vfwwebmail.com)

13. Anyone requesting a Department Officer to attend a function must submit a **written request** to Department Headquarters at least 30 days prior to the date of the function. An e-mail to the Adjutant at [adj@mo.vfwwebmail.com](mailto:adj@mo.vfwwebmail.com) is acceptable.

14. The next meeting of the Council of Administration will be held on October 7, 2017 at Camden on the Lake at the Lake of the Ozarks, beginning at 9:00 a.m. All members of the Council, as well as Committees and Chairpersons, should make every effort to attend and be prepared to report in accordance with the agenda, which will be provided prior to the meeting. Room reservations must be made through the hotel by calling 573-365-5620. A room rate of \$104.00 (plus tax) has been given to the VFW. Please be sure to tell the reservationist that you are with the *VFW group* to receive this rate. A testimonial banquet will be held Saturday evening in honor of the State Commander and State President. The reservation form will be sent out at a later date.

15. Quarterly audit reports for the period ending 6-30-17 are due 7-31-17. Forms can be filled out on-line by going to <http://vfwwebcom.org/Missouri>, under Missouri Forms Online. You can also make copies of the blank form for your use throughout the year. This deadline must be met for All State Contest purposes and is required by National By-Laws.

16. Post Commanders are reminded that Community Activity Reporting is now on-line through the on-line Reporting program. The rules concerning entry of information has not changed. The expectation of the Department Commander is that whichever organization; be it; Auxiliary, Men's Auxiliary or Post that conducts an activity should be fully authorized to input it on-line.

17. The following District Schools of Instruction/meetings for the month of July are announced:

DIST	POST #	LOCATION	DATE	TIME	REPRESENTATIVE
1	7159	Princeton	7/8/17	9:00 a.m.	Sr. Vice Commander
3	7356	Parkville	7/9/17	1:00 p.m.	Jr. Vice Commander
9	8828	Troy	7/9/17	12:00 Noon	State Commander
14	3404	Springfield	7/16/17	10:00 a.m. SOI 12:00 p.m. Meeting	State Commander
15	3127	Chaffe	7/29/17	10:00 a.m.	Sr. Vice Commander
17	11041	Palmyra	7/16/17	10:00 a.m.	Sr. Vice Commander

Official:  
 Bob Wonnell  
 Adjutant

By Order of:  
 Ruben Armenta  
 Commander