

April 26, 2024

Human Resources

- New Hire:
 - o Charles Tibbetts is a new National Pre-Discharge Claims Representative – Hawaii, in the Veterans Service Programs Department.

- Promotions:
 - o Christopher Johnson has been promoted to Grants Manager, VFW Foundation, K.C. Office.
 - o Mary Spencer has been promoted to Military Assistance Program Coordinator, Programs, K.C. Office.
 - o John Linstra has been promoted to Youth Activities Coordinator, Programs, K.C. Office.

- Positions Actively Recruiting For:
 - o National Pre-Discharge Claims Rep – Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington.
 - o National Pre-Discharge Rep – Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.

Contact: VFW Human Resources Director Sari Maple, SMaple@vfw.org.

Programs

- VFW National Convention 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament:

Please encourage our members to register teams and participate in the 2nd annual VFW Cornhole Tournament taking place at the 125th VFW National Convention in Louisville!

The series will take place on Sunday, July 28, and Monday, July 29, 2024. All proceeds from the competition go to VFW PACT Act benefit assistance. For more information and to sign up for this event, visit <https://kccrew.com/leagues/vfwcornholetournament/>.

Contact: VFW Programs Director Lynn W. Rolf, III, LRolf@vfw.org.

Administrative Operations

- There are currently 46 Posts under suspension. The organization has 5,638 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 27 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, 14 Administrative Removals/Actions and 10 membership eligibility challenges.
- Currently Administrative Operations has 152 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions in for review, 22 of which are new; current turnaround time on Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions is approximately 45-60 days.

Disciplinary Action Guide:

There have been recent updates to the Disciplinary Action Guide that outlines the process to successfully complete a disciplinary action. We have included information to the guide that encompasses sentencing guidelines which is located as an appendix at the end of the guide and outlines sentencing/penalty considerations, clarifications, and examples.

The guide is available on the Document Repository in the “Guide to Disciplinary Action” folder or on the VFW website behind the login under My VFW/Bylaws: Training, Forms & Templates/ Training/Training Guides & Standard Operating Procedures.

Department Inspections:

At this time all 10 Department inspections have been completed, which satisfies the Commander-in-Chief’s goal from the beginning of the year.

With the Department inspections being completed for the 2023-24 term, the team will be conducting an after-action review and compiling information from each of their inspections so we can put together a list of best practices and common issues to share with all Departments. This will assist Departments in identifying shortcomings prior to their own inspections as well as provide resources of who they can reach out to assist in specific areas where they may need additional help.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Quentin Carroll at QCarroll@vfw.org.

Election Reports:

2024-2025 Election reports have been mailed out. Per the Bylaws and Manual of Procedures, Posts should have opened nominations for the upcoming year in March and closed the nominations and elections of Post Officers in April. To access the election report online; sign in to VFW.org and proceed to My VFW. Select Online Membership System (OMS), then press the drop-down menu on the left side of the screen for Election Report and select Post Election Report Filing.

The 2024-25 Election Report is now available in OMS. Please ensure when you file your Election Report for the new term that you have selected 2024-25 from the drop-down option as OMS will typically default to the current term.

NOTE: The National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure require a properly completed Election Report for the ensuing year to be submitted to Department and National Headquarters by June 1, 2024.

Contact: VFW Administrative Operations Director Quentin Carroll, QCarroll@vfw.org.

Membership

- Congratulations to the Department of Pacific Areas in chartering new Post 12223, Manila, Philippines, on April 2, 2024, and the Department of Texas for chartering new Post 12232, Portland, Texas, on April 16, 2024. If you have questions about Memstats, Post Query, or if you are trying to charter a Post and you have more than 15 members on a charter application, call Matt Nute at 816.968.1122. We have many resources available to help you.
- Do you understand MEMSTATS? Are you able to answer common questions to help Post leaders such as: “How do I check a Post’s All-American Dashboard?” or “Do you know how to view and use your KPI Tools?” If these are questions you cannot answer, chances are good there are leaders in your Districts that cannot either. Please do NOT wait to ask questions! If you need help in this arena, call us! We will help you!
- Need recruiting training/resources?! If you have a topic for training, we would love to hear from you! Contact us by emailing, Membership@vfw.org. Follow our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/VFWmembership>.

Contact: VFW Membership Interim Director Corey Hunt, CoreyHunt@vfw.org.

Meetings and Events

- Ongoing, exhibitor requests processed into eShow for Louisville/2024. To date, 73 total booths representing revenues of \$93,032.75. **Note:** There are outstanding monies due included in the total. Following up to clear those monies owed.
- Successful Senior Vice Commanders training – April 18-21, 2024.
- Ongoing, working with Taylor on processes within department.
- Finalize hotel contracts for 2025-26 Washington Conference.
- Finalizing miscellaneous contracts with legal for future meetings.

Contact: VFW Meetings and Events/Exhibits Director Vanessa Kane, CMP, CMM, VKane@vfw.org.

National Legislative Service

- VFW Shares Testimony Despite Cancelled Hearing: VFW National Legislative Service Director Patrick Murray was slated to testify on more than two dozen issues before the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. However, the chance to speak was taken away. “Just because the hearing was cancelled due to politics completely unrelated to veterans, it doesn't mean we don't still have something to say about proposed bills,” Murray said. [Read the prepared testimony](#).

- Veteran Wins Supreme Court Case on VA Education Benefits: The Supreme Court sided with James Rudisill in the case *Rudisill v. McDonough* by a 7-2 ruling. This decision could impact up to 1.7 million veterans, allowing those who accrue benefits under both the Montgomery GI Bill and the Post-9/11 GI Bill to use both benefits. Previously, a veteran could earn a maximum of only 36 months of education benefits and had to either use the Montgomery GI Bill or transfer the entitlement to the newer and more expansive Post-9/11 GI Bill. The court found that Mr. Rudisill, who served in the U.S. Army during three separate time periods, accrued 48 months of benefits under the two different programs. VA is currently reviewing the decision. The VFW will provide updates as we learn the full impact of this ruling. [Read more.](#)

Contact: VFW National Legislative Service Director Patrick Murray, PMurray@vfw.org.

National Veterans Service

- NVS hosted the Accredited Representative Proficiency Training Conference in Annapolis, Maryland, where more than 180 accredited representatives received training on updated VA regulations and policies.
- The NVS director attended the VFW Senior Vice Commander Training Conference.

Contact: VFW National Veterans Service Director Michael Figlioli, MFiglioli@vfw.org.

