

**HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S., INC
GENERAL ORDERS NO. 12**

Series 2020-2021

June, 2021

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

1. The 2021 Department Convention will be held at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri, June 10 – June 12, 2021. Although a lot of the COVID restriction have been lifted we will not be allowed to have hospitality rooms. We will have a couple of big tents on the parking lot and will be allowed some keg beer. There will be no hard liquor in the tents but you can mix a drink in your room and bring it out to the tent. Snack foods will be allowed but no cooking in the tents. We are asking Districts and Posts to make a donation to help offset the cost of the tents and the beer. Reservations for sleeping rooms are available. Currently, sleeping room reservations are restricted to a three (3) day stay and may be made by calling the hotel direct at 1-888-532-4338. Be sure to let them know you are with the VFW. Persons reserving three (3) days and later cancelling one (1) or two (2) will have the entire three (3) days cancelled. We do have an Overflow Hotel if Oasis is full or for anyone wanting to make a reservation for LESS than three (3) days, the hotel is: Holiday Inn & Suites of Springfield and can be reached at 417-865-8600.

2. **The 122nd National Convention is scheduled for July 31 – August 3, 2021 in Kansas City, MO.** Housing will go live on **Tuesday, June 1, 2021.**

Due to the short amount of time until housing closes (**June 30**), you will use the following methods (**call-in or on-line**) to make reservations:

- **Toll-Free: 877.464.6840 – Mon.-Fri. 9a-6p - EST**
- **International: 980.337.3372 – Mon.-Fri. 9a-6p EST**
- **Housing Website: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50193779>**
- **VFW Convention website – www.vfw.org/convention**

Once the reservations are input into the housing system, and if an email address is provided, you will receive an acknowledgement of that reservation.

3 Congratulations to all the Posts and Districts that have earned All State. An Awards Ceremony to honor All State and other award winners will be held on Friday evening, June 11, 2021 at the State Convention.

4. All Department Officers, District Commanders, and Committee Chairmen are reminded that they are to submit a written report to the State Adjutant covering their activities of the past year. This report may be forwarded directly to Department Headquarters or given to the State Adjutant at the C of A on June 10^h. These reports will be made an official part of the minutes. This report should be concise and cover the highlights of the 2020 – 2021 administrative year.

5. National Headquarters has not received the Report of Election of Post Officers from several Posts. Completion and submittal of the Report of Election is the responsibility of the current Post Quartermaster. It is very important that each Post submit a Report of Election as it contains

information vital to the operation of the National and Department Headquarters. Unless the report is received, Post Officers will not be on the various mailing lists. **(If your Post has not submitted an election report, please do so ASAP.**

6. Newly elected District and Post Officers do not assume their duties until the newly elected State Commander is installed on June 12th, 2021.

7. We need your help with finishing out the 2020-2021 Membership Campaign. As of today, May 28, the Department is at 97.31%. To help you help us we have a **“Deal of a Lifetime”** for your annual members. Due to COVID the Department of MO. VFW has received a grant from the Federal Government. The Dept Council of Administration as decided to use the money to offer a Life Member incentive. Effective immediately any annual member who converts to a Life Member, or new member who joins as a Life Member, will receive a rebate for 50% of the Life Member Fee from the Department Quartermaster. **You must notify the State Quartermaster so he knows who to mail the check to.** This only applies to new members joining as Life Members or Life Member upgrades. The \$45 rebate that has been in effect only applies to Legacy Life upgrades now. Any questions please contact the State QM, Tom McLerran. This should help you finish the year strong.

8. The Missouri Veteran Service Officer Program is vital to our organization. Donations from Posts, Auxiliaries, and individuals on a continuing basis are critical to this program. Without your donations, we cannot continue to provide the service we are now providing to Veterans and their Families. This program is what we are about. The VFW Service Officers are here to assist our members and Veterans in your community in obtaining vital health care and VA benefits. Commanders at all levels should encourage donations from your Post and District. As stated in the State Commander Expectations in the Post Commander & Quartermaster Handbook, it is expected that each post donates at a minimum of \$3.00 per member. Our Webmaster has made it easy to make your donation on-line. **Simply go to movfw.org; Click on Programs, scroll down to Donations, and “Click here to donate to the VSO”.**

9. Proceeds from the Raffle of the Savage rifle are to be used for the 2022 National Convention in Kansas City. The Department of Missouri is the Guest Sponsor so it will require lots of Planning and Money on our part, so we're trying to raise some of the funds now. Jr Vice Commander Royce Kelb has a list of all the ticket serial numbers and who they were passed out to. All funds or requests for additional tickets are to be mailed to Comrade Kelb at PO Box 103, Lincoln, MO 65338. That way he can account for which tickets have been sold or returned. All proceeds will be turned over to the Department Quartermaster.

10. We are looking forward to seeing you at the convention in a couple weeks.

Official:

Donald L Hentges
Department Adjutant

By Order Of:

Eric Sullivan
Commander