



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE
DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
MINUTES - ANNUAL MEETING – MAY 14, 2022



OPENING CEREMONY:

The meeting was opened per ritual by Commandant Larry Heard at 0911. The Mission Statement of the Marine Corps League was read.

Commandant Heard welcomed all in attendance and introduced the following dignitaries:

National Commandant Johnny Baker;
Convention Guest Speaker SgtMaj (Ret.) Angela Maness;
Department of Alabama Commandant Mike Ryan;
Southeast Division Vice Commandant Jerry Holt;
Chief Devil Dog Tom Hazlett;
Past Department of Georgia Commandant Randy Barnes;
Past Department of Georgia Commandant Joe Barbee;
Past Department of Georgia Commandant Christian Roberts;
Past Department of Georgia Commandant Ron Kirstatter;
Past Department of Georgia Commandant Michael Clark; and
Past Department of Georgia Commandant Bernard Bledsoe.

PRESENTATIONS:

National Commandant Johnny Baker talked about what we do for the Marine Corps and how we represent them. He noted that we continue to serve. Our level of professionalism should be just as high as it was when we were in the Marine Corps. We provide support in many ways including funeral details, honor guards, Toys for Tots, Young Marine units, Marine for Life (which covers suicide prevention programs), and Marine JROTC. Marine for Life training is currently being conducted at the Department and Division levels. Detachments will be trained next. Commandant Baker noted that the chain of command is essential. Work through your Department and use the chain of command. The Commandant spoke about the National website and suggested members review the Library and the Member Library. The library is open to the public. The Member Library is restricted to Marine Corps League members, and a password is required to access it. He noted that rifle reports are required annually for Detachments that have Tacom rifles. He also reported that the Marine Corps League Ships store is working to improve their inventory situation. Departments should be holding ongoing training for Detachment Commandants and Paymasters relative to the membership database and paperwork procedures. The database portal is open to all, and Detachment Commandants and Detachment Paymasters have access to the records for their Detachment members. Detachment Paymasters need to input members' email addresses so that members can access their own profiles. Members can update their address, email address, and telephone numbers subject to review and approval by National staff. Commandant Baker urged Detachments to use the forms that are available on the National website (i.e., Dues Transmittal, Notice of Death, Report of Officer Installation). The Marine Corps League is currently 63,000 members strong. The Commandants' Corner on Facebook is not just for Commandants but is open to all members. It is held at least once a month. In closing, Commandant Baker urged members to take back to their Detachments what they learn at Department and National events.

Angela Maness spoke to the membership about the Young Marines. She works with SgtMaj Overstreet to spread the word about the Young Marines. One Young Marine, GySgt Thomas, spoke about how the

program has changed his life. Another Young Marine, Sgt Perdy, talked about the training she received from the Young Marines. The membership viewed a Young Marines video presentation. Angela Maness reported that our young people are no longer being trained to be ready for the military. Drugs, distractions, and lack of education affect today's youth. Drug-free is the number one priority for the Young Marines. It is a lifestyle change for these children, ages 8-18. The Young Marines have been around since 1959. They are the Young Marines of the Marine Corps League. She urged Detachments to call on them for assistance. There are about 6,000 units nationwide, and they need our help. About 6% of the youth in the Young Marines go into the Marine Corps. This program is not about making Marines specifically; it is about making better Americans. Some of their activities include Leadership Academy, SPACES program, shooting program with the Marines, and navigational training. Each year a unit goes to Pearl Harbor. In many cases, the alumni come back to the units as adult volunteers. Currently there are six units in Georgia; they are working on three new units. If there are females in a unit, they need female adult volunteers. Volunteers do not have to be in the Marine Corps League, and they do not need to have military training. However, they must be felony free. A big challenge to the Young Marines and their program is the legalization of marijuana.

Mike Riley (Riley P) was introduced to the membership. He participates in the North Forsyth High School JROTC.

The meeting recessed at 1008 and reconvened at 1020.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DETACHMENTS:

Department officers in attendance included:

- Commandant Larry Heard
- Sr. Vice Commandant Bill Miller
- Jr. Vice Commandant Rex Delk
- Judge Advocate Lisa Delk
- Adjutant/Paymaster LuAnn Miller
- Chaplain Mickey Edwards
- Sergeant-at-Arms Levi McKenna
- Sergeant-at-Arms JR Millhorn

District Vice Commandants in attendance included:

- District 3 – Russ Johnson
- District 5 – Frank Goalen
- District 6 – Frank Goalen
- District 7 – Ed Barbee

Appointed Positions:

- Fallen Marines – Merrill Tindall
- Boy Scout Coordinator – Mickey Edwards
- Web Sergeant – Brent Eaton
- Historian – Bernard Bledsoe

Detachments in attendance included:

- Detachment 647 – L/Cpl Squire “Skip” Wells
- Detachment 783 – Unicoi
- Detachment 970 – Middle Georgia
- Detachment 1020 – Jake Puryear
- Detachment 1040 – 1st Sgt Charles F. Waller
- Detachment 1188 – Gen Ray Davis MOH

Detachment 1196 – Maj Stephen W. Pless
Detachment 1260 – Maj Lawrence Des Jardines
Detachment 1280 – North Georgia Mountain
Detachment 1303 – Currahee Mountain
Detachment 1311 – MajGen Warren R. Johnson
Detachment 1312 – Aubrey Gilbert
Detachment 1325 – Sgt Clyde Thomason MOH
Detachment 1326 – West Chatham
Detachment 1333 – Waycross
Detachment 1373 – Central Georgia
Detachment 1402 – Columbus
Detachment 1424 – Peach County

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Commandant Heard noted that the minutes of the March 26, 2022, business meeting are available and have been posted on the Department website. Michael Clark moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes as posted. Russ Johnson seconded the motion, and it was approved. The minutes were accepted as published

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

REPORT OF PAYMASTER:

The Paymaster's report was read. Ron Sutherland moved to approve the Paymaster's Report as submitted pending financial review. Alton Coleman seconded the motion, and it was approved.

REPORT OF MEMBERS SICKNESS OR IN DISTRESS:

Chaplain Mickey Edward reported that six Notices of Death were received since the last Department meeting including Robert Dale Porter, Donald Chavez, Frank R. Walker, Oliver G. Moorehead, Raymond A. Brierley, and Michael P. Dunn. No illnesses were reported.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Judge Advocate: Judge Advocate Lisa Delk had no formal report but she thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve as Department Judge Advocate over the last two years. She noted that it has been a great two years and pointed out that the Department officers are here to serve the membership. She encouraged Detachments to keep working on their Bylaws and assured the members that she will work closely with the new Judge Advocate for a smooth transition.

Jr. Vice Commandant: Jr. Vice Commandant Rex Delk echoed the sentiments of the Department Judge Advocate. He reported that, in the Department, we have 1,439 members, 209 of which are delinquent. He noted that he is happy to see 16 Detachments (out of 27 active detachments) represented at the Convention.

Sr. Vice Commandant: Sr. Vice Commandant Bill Miller reported that he has had the privilege of being the Sr. Vice Commandant for the last two years. He noted that Commandant Heard has

been a great leader for the team. We've been moving forward but we still have more to accomplish.

Commandant: Commandant Larry Heard said that it has been a good two years. He is certain that the Department officers have not made everyone happy, but he noted that they have done their best working as a team. Commandant Heard reported that the Department has reinstated Friday night get togethers prior to each quarterly meeting. These gatherings serve as an opportunity to share what we are doing with other Detachments and to promote camaraderie within the Department. He reminded Detachments to use the chain of command. Commandant Heard noted that it has been a rough two years with COVID, but we have made it through. He also noted that Department officers represent the members and are here to provide assistance. In the future, when it is time to have a quarterly meeting, we need Detachments to stand up and volunteer.

REPORTS OF APPOINTED OFFICERS:

None

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Boy Scout Coordinator Mickey Edwards reported that Scouting activities are ramping up to pre-pandemic levels. He noted that Department has Eagle Scouts coins available for purchase, and he encouraged Detachments to submit their Scouting reports. He has been working with Scouting for the last 30+ years and enjoys it.

Convention Committee – Committee Chair, Bill Miller, reported that Department booked this year's venue to keep costs down, and he thanked everyone who signed up and showed up to make this a great Convention. The evening's banquet will seat 85 people. Chair Miller noted that proceeds from the raffle room and silent auction should keep this year's Convention in the black.

Bill Miller, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the goal of the Department Finance Committee was to promote more visibility and transparency of the Department's finances. The Finance Committee prepared a budget to allow officers to expend funds without specific membership approval so long as the expenditure is within the budgeted amount. He noted that, to increase available funds, we could raise Department dues from \$4 to \$5 and suggested that the membership consider this option before the next Convention. A motion was made by Barbara Brammer to approve the budget as presented. Ron Sutherland seconded the motion. Following discussion, the budget was approved.

Alton Coleman, Chairman of the Financial Review Committee, reported that the Paymaster's records for the last year have been reviewed and no issues were identified. The Paymaster records are approved.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE:

Judge Advocate Lisa Delk thanked the Bylaws Committee for their service. Bylaws Committee members included Department Judge Advocate Lisa Delk, Troy Bolt (Detachment #1020), Alton Coleman (Detachment #783), Bill Craig (Detachment #1280), and Merrill Tindall (Detachment #1333). She noted that there were seven proposed Bylaws amendments received by the Bylaws Committee. All proposed changes were timely submitted, and the Bylaws Committee recommended approval of six of the proposed amendments and rejection of the remaining amendment. Copies of the proposed Bylaws amendments are appended to these minutes and include the proposed changes and rationale.

ARTICLE TWO – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

SECTION 200 – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, SUBSECTION a.

The Bylaws Committee recommended approval. Motion by Bernard Bledsoe to approve; seconded by Barbara Brammer. The proposed Bylaws amendment was approved by the membership.

ARTICLE TWO – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

SECTION 200 – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, SUBSECTION F. - COMMITTEE

The Bylaws Committee recommended approval. Motion by Rodney Riggs to approve; seconded by Frank Goalen. The proposed Bylaws amendment was approved by the membership.

ARTICLE FIVE – AUDIT COMMITTEE

SECTION 500 – AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Bylaws Committee recommended approval. Motion by Ashford Todd to approve; seconded by Marty Habecker. The proposed Bylaws amendment was approved by the membership.

ARTICLE SIX – FINANCE COMMITTEE

NEW SECTION 600 – FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Bylaws Committee recommended approval. Motion by Bernard Bledsoe to approve; seconded by Michael Clark. Rich Sabo recommended that a statement be added to Section b. stipulating that member terms should not all expire at the same time. A vote on the motion as presented resulted in a majority of ayes and one nay vote. The proposed Bylaws amendment was approved by the membership.

ARTICLE SEVEN – AMENDMENTS – CHANGES TO DEPARTMENT BYLAWS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

SECTION 700 – AMENDMENTS - CHANGES

The Bylaws Committee recommended approval. Motion by Ron Kirstatter to approve; seconded by Bill Craig. The proposed Bylaws amendment was approved by the membership.

CHAPTER TWO – AMENDMENTS TO DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

NEW SECTION 200 – AMENDMENTS – CHANGES

The Bylaws Committee recommended approval. Motion by Ed Barbee to approve; seconded by Claude Curley. The proposed Bylaws amendment was approved by the membership.

ARTICLE ONE

SECTION 120 – NEW PARAGRAPH E. – ATTENDANCE

The Bylaws Committee recommended rejection of and revision to the original proposal. The Bylaws Committee recommended approval of the revised amendment. Motion by Randy Barnes to approve; seconded by Joe Barbee. Bernard Bledsoe stated that the Department ignored the Southeast Division Conference by holding a Department meeting at the same time. Alton Coleman recommended that Detachments reimburse their Commandants for hotel and mileage costs to enable them to attend Department meetings. Barbara Brammer talked about the Southeast Division mix up and disagreed with reimbursing Commandants. Marty Habecker suggested allowing electronic attendance to count. Tony Gasper opined that he does not believe National would allow this Bylaws amendment. Judge Advocate Delk said this is something that Alabama already has in their Bylaws. Ben Sinclair believes that pulling a Detachment's charter for missing meetings is excessive. A vote on the motion to approve the revised amendment resulted in 29 aye and 18 nay votes. The revised Bylaws amendment was approved by the membership.

The approved amendments will be incorporated into the Department Bylaws and will be submitted to National for review. Following approval by National, the amended Bylaws will be posted on the

Department website and copies will be provided to Detachment Commandants and Detachment Judge Advocates.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

The meeting recessed at 1135 and reconvened at 1300.

GOOD OF THE LEAGUE:

The Department of Alabama presented a \$100 check to the Department of Georgia.

Southeast Division Vice Commandant Jerry Holt reported that the Detachments in attendance at the Southeast Division Conference were Detachment #1188, Detachment #1196, Detachment #1260, and Detachment #1402. He noted that at each Commandants Corner, a special program will be presented (i.e., Young Marines, Toys for Tots, Youth Physical Fitness, and the Scholarship Program). These programs can all be used as recruiting tools. Division Vice Commandant Holt presented a \$100 check from a South Carolina Detachment to the Marine Corps League Foundation. He noted that the National Commandant urges all Detachments to contribute funds to the Marine Corps League Foundation, which is the funding agency for the Marine Corps League Scholarship Program. Last year, only three students from Georgia applied for scholarships, and the scholarship award last year was \$700. The Southeast Division started a Disaster Relief Fund currently funded at \$60,000.

Bernard Bledsoe reported on the upcoming anniversary for the Marine Corps League. National Headquarters wants information from each Detachment and each Department about their history. All submissions should be sent to Bernard Bledsoe to be turned in to National staff at this year's National Convention.

Marty Habecker reported that letters were sent to each Detachment in Georgia requesting support for the Young Marines. Only two replies were received. Please consider supporting the Young Marines. The 2023 Department Convention will be held in Warner Robins, Georgia. The Host Detachment is in the process of selecting a hotel, and an update will be given at the next Department meeting. A Marine Corps Shooting Competition will be hosted by Detachment 1373. There is a \$20 entry fee, and scores will be submitted to National. Detachment #1373 is raffling a .9mm pistol and tickets are available. Marty Habecker reported that the axe in the raffle room is a replica of the axe carried by Marines in the second battle of Fallujah, which was a two-month battle with 95 killed in action and many purple hearts awarded.

Larry Heard announced that Convention streamers will be available at the next Department meeting, which will be held on July 30, 2022.

Angela Maness, Chairperson of the Color Guard / Honor Guard Committee, reported that a policy was adopted in 2019 for Color Guards / Honor Guards. Please follow the policy/procedures, rehearse, and

make necessary corrections to your team when appropriate. Angela Maness provided visual examples of the right and wrong ways to present yourself while serving in Color Guards / Honor Guards.

AWARDS:

Commandant Larry Heard presented the Marine Corps League Distinguished Citizen Award to LuAnn Miller. Commandant Heard also presented Marine Corps League Certificates of Appreciation to Lisa Delk, Rex Delk, LuAnn Miller, Bill Miller, Mickey Edwards, JR Millhorn, Merrill Tindall, and Levi McKenna

NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Commandant Larry Heard chaired the election and noted that the order of election is Commandant, Sr. Vice Commandant, Jr. Vice Commandant, and Judge Advocate.

Commandant: Frank Goalen nominated Bill Miller, and Bill Miller agreed to serve. No other nominations were received, and the Department Chaplain cast one unanimous vote for Bill Miller for Department Commandant.

Sr. Vice Commandant: Levi McKenna nominated Rex Delk, and Rex Delk agreed to serve. No other nominations were received, and the Department Chaplain cast one unanimous vote for Rex Delk for Department Sr. Vice Commandant.

Jr. Vice Commandant: Michael Clark nominated Lisa Delk, and Lisa Delk agreed to serve. No other nominations were received, and the Department Chaplain cast one unanimous vote for Lisa Delk for Department Jr. Vice Commandant.

Judge Advocate: Ashford Todd nominated Alton Coleman, and Alton Coleman agreed to serve. No other nominations were received, and the Department Chaplain cast one unanimous vote for Alton Coleman for Department Judge Advocate.

Elections were closed, and the newly elected and appointed officers were sworn in by National Commandant Johnny Baker at the evening banquet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Outgoing Commandant Larry Heard shared that it has been an honor to serve the members, and he challenged the membership to support the officers they elected.

Bill Miller announced that banquet activities will begin at 1800 with dinner starting at 1900. He expressed thanks to all the volunteers and noted that Department is grateful for their assistance. A special thanks was extended to the Semper Fi Bar & Grille, Woodstock, Georgia, for providing the beer in the hospitality room.

Levi McKenna announced the Grand Growl will begin at 1430.

The meeting recessed at 1401 and will reconvene at the banquet.

BANQUET NOTES:

Guest Speaker – SgtMaj (Ret.) Angela Maness
Grits Bowl – Department of Georgia
Associate of the Year – Cheryl Jordan, Detachment 1438
Burkhardt Award – Columbus, Detachment 1402
Big Al Meade Award – Not presented
Pack Dog of the Year – Levi McKenna, Pound 322
Marine of the Year – Larry Heard, Detachment 1196

Submitted by:
LuAnn K. Miller
Adjutant/Paymaster
Department of Georgia
Marine Corps League

**Marine Corps League
Department of Georgia
Draft Budget
2022 - 2023**

	3 Year Average	Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount	Budget Variance
INCOME				
50/50 Drawing	\$ 42.83	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Dues Income - Detachment	\$ 3,628.76	\$ 3,625.00	\$ -	\$ 3,625.00
Dues Income - PLM	\$ 1,513.14	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00
Total Income	\$ 5,184.73	\$ 5,175.00	\$ -	\$ 5,175.00
EXPENSES				
Annual SOS Registration	\$ 36.67	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Awards	\$ 103.56	\$ 75.00	\$ -	\$ 75.00
BOT - Commandant Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
BOT - Sr. Vice Commandant Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
BOT - Jr. Vice Expenses	\$ 127.95	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
BOT - Judge Advocate Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Commandant's Discretionary Fund	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Convention Ads	\$ 310.00	\$ 310.00	\$ -	\$ 310.00
Donations - Disaster Relief	\$ 166.55	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
Donations - Misc	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Donations - Young Marines	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 2,100.00	\$ -	\$ 2,100.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 14.09	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
Postage	\$ 149.96	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00
Sergeant-at-Arms Expenses	\$ 92.55	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Staff Meeting Expenses	\$ 89.56	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Supplies	\$ 46.23	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Technology Expenses	\$ 539.88	\$ 550.00	\$ -	\$ 550.00
Website - Domain Name Registration	\$ 18.00	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 20.00
Website - Web Hosting	\$ 105.94	\$ 110.00	\$ -	\$ 110.00
Total Expenses	\$ 5,500.94	\$ 4,890.00	\$ -	\$ 4,890.00
Income Gain/Loss	\$ (316.21)	\$ 285.00	\$ -	\$ 285.00



Judge Advocate - Lisa Delk

P.O. Box 420 * Locust Grove, GA 30248

To: Dept of GA Adjutant Paymaster LuAnn Miller
2904 Cross Creek Dr
Cumming, GA 30040

Re: Report of the Bylaws Committee

26 March 2022

LuAnn,

Having met with the members of the Bylaws Committee, I submit to you the following recommendations of that committee regarding proposed amendments to the Department of Georgia Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

The Committee, consisting of Dept Judge Advocate Lisa Delk, Troy Bolt (Det 1020), Alton Coleman (Det 782), Bill Craig (Det 1280), and Merrill Tindall (Det 1333), recommends approval for the following proposed amendments:

- a. Amendment to Article Two - Department Officers, Section 200 - Department Officers, Subsection a.
- b. Amendment to Article Two - Department Officers, Section 200 - Department Officers, Subsection f. Committees
- c. Article Five—Audit Committee, Section 500 - Audit Committee
- d. New Article Six - Finance Committee, Section 600 - Finance Committee
- e. Article Seven - Amendments - Changes to Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures
- f. Chapter Two - Amendments to Department of Georgia Administrative Procedures

The Committee recommends rejection of the following proposed amendments as written:

- a. Article One, Section 120 - New Paragraph E - Attendance

This article may be amended from the floor for consideration by the body at the Department Convention.

In accordance with Department of Georgia Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, please forward these recommendations along with the enclosed copies of the proposed amendments to the Detachment Commandants and Judge Advocates.

Respectfully Submitted,

Semper Fidelis!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Delk".

Lisa Delk

cc: To file



William Miller – Sr. Vice Commandant
Marine Corps League – Department of Georgia



Memorandum

Date: 30 January 2022
To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee
From: William Miller – Department of Georgia Sr. Vice Commandant
Subject: Proposed Change to Department of Georgia Bylaws

**AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE TWO – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, SECTION 200 –
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, SUBSECTION a.:**

Present:

ARTICLE TWO

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

SECTION 200 – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

- a. The managing body is comprised of elected Department officers (who also serve as the Corporation Officers), the special staff consisting of appointed officers and committees, and Detachment Commandants.

Proposed (Note: If adopted, underline and bold formatting of recommended changes will be removed.):

ARTICLE TWO

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

SECTION 200 – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

- a. The managing body is comprised of elected Department officers, the special staff consisting of appointed officers and committees, and Detachment Commandants. **The Corporation Officers shall consist of the following:**
Chief Executive Officer – Department Commandant
Corporate Secretary – Department Sr. Vice Commandant
Chief Financial Officer – Department Jr. Vice Commandant

2904 Cross Creek Drive, Cumming, GA 30040-6307
404-547-6651 – Mobile | backtogilwell@gmail.com

Registered Agent – Department Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster

Rationale: Georgia Secretary of State allows only three officers and one registered agent to be registered for a corporation. The CEO, CFO and Secretary are modeled after Marine Corps League National standards. As the Department Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster is responsible for our finances, this individual is the logical choice to maintain our Georgia corporation filings.



**William Miller – Sr. Vice Commandant
Marine Corps League – Department of Georgia**



Memorandum

Date: 3 January 2022
To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee
From: William Miller – Department of Georgia Sr. Vice Commandant
Subject: Proposed Change to Department of Georgia Bylaws

**AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE TWO – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, SECTION 200 –
DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, SUBSECTION f. COMMITTEES:**

Present:

ARTICLE TWO

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

SECTION 200 – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

- f. COMMITTEES: Committees shall be appointed as required by the Department Commandant with the approval of Board of Trustees, to meet the needs of the Department. All Committee Chairs are responsible to the staff for timely response and reports as directed. Standing Committees are, including but not limited to, the following:

Audit Committee
Awards Committee
Bylaws Committee
Convention Committee
Credentials Committee
Resolutions Committee
Rules Committee

Proposed (Note: If adopted, underline and bold formatting of recommended changes will be removed.):

ARTICLE TWO

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

SECTION 200 – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

- f. COMMITTEES: The below listed Standing Committees shall be constituted annually. The Department Commandant shall appoint these Committee Members with the approval of the Board of Trustees. These appointments shall be completed within 30 days of installation of the Department Commandant. All Committee Chairs are responsible to the staff for timely response and reports as directed. The Standing Committees are:

Audit Committee
Awards Committee
Bylaws Committee
Convention Committee
Credentials Committee

Additional committees shall be appointed as required by the Department Commandant with the approval of the Board of Trustees to meet the needs of the Department as a Non-Standing Committee.

Rationale: A standing committee is defined as “a permanent committee, as of a legislature, society, etc., intended to consider all matters pertaining to a designated subject.” The five standing committees listed are essential for the effective operation of the Department as well as its continued success and need to be available upon request. The Resolutions Committee and the Rules Committee are removed as they have not been utilized in many years and are not necessary as a standing or permanent committee. Should they be needed, they can be reconstituted as required by the Department Commandant as a non-standing committee with approval of the Board of Trustees. This sections was also updated to require the Department Commandant to appoint Standing Committee members in a timely manner.



William Miller – Sr. Vice Commandant
Marine Corps League – Department of Georgia



Memorandum

Date: 3 January 2022
To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee
From: William Miller – Department of Georgia Finance Committee Chairman
Subject: Proposed Change to Department of Georgia Bylaws

ARTICLE FIVE – AUDIT COMMITTEE, SECTION 500 – AUDIT COMMITTEE

Present:

ARTICLE FIVE

AUDIT COMMITTEE

SECTION 500 – AUDIT COMMITTEE

- a. The Audit Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members appointed by the Department Commandant and approved by the Board of Trustees.
- b. Each member shall be either a Past Department Commandant or a Past Detachment Commandant. The Chair shall be the Junior Past Department Commandant. If the Junior Past Commandant is not available, the Committee shall select a Chair.
- c. An audit of the Department's financial records shall be performed at least once per year. An audit shall be performed at the Annual Convention prior to the first session on the day of election and any other time it is deemed necessary by the Department Officers and/or the Board of Trustees. There will also be an audit whenever the position of Department Paymaster is vacated for any reason.
- d. The Chair shall make a report of the findings at the Annual Convention or the next Department Meeting.

Proposed (Note: If adopted, underline and bold formatting of recommended changes will be removed and Audit Committee will be updated to Financial Review Committee in the listing of Standing Committees listed in Article Two, Section 200, Subsection f.):

ARTICLE FIVE

FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

SECTION 500 – FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

- a. The **Financial Review** Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members appointed by the Department Commandant and approved by the Board of Trustees. **No member of the Financial Review Committee shall serve concurrently as a member of the Finance Committee.**
- b. Each member shall be either a Past Department Commandant or a Past Detachment Commandant. The Chair shall be the Junior Past Department Commandant. If the Junior Past Commandant is not available, **the Department Commandant shall appoint an additional member and** the Committee shall select a Chair.
- c. **A financial review** of the Department’s financial records shall be performed at least once per year. **A financial review** shall be performed at the Annual Convention prior to the first session on the day of election and any other time it is deemed necessary by the Department Officers and/or the Board of Trustees. There will also be a financial review whenever the position of Department Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster is vacated for any reason.
- d. The Chair shall make a report of the findings at the Annual Convention or the next Department Meeting.

Rationale: In the state of Georgia, only an individual who has attained their CPA (Certified Public Account) credentials may conduct an audit, however internal individuals of an organization are allowed to review the financial documents and prepare a report. All instances in this section of the term “Audit” were replaced with the phrase “Financial Review.” Section a. is updated to state that no member of the Financial Review Committee is allowed to also serve on the Finance Committee to provide a separation of duties. Section b. is updated to require the Department Commandant to appoint an additional member in the event the Junior Past Department Commandant is unavailable, keeping the committee at a minimum membership of four (4) members.



**William Miller – Sr. Vice Commandant
Marine Corps League – Department of Georgia**



Memorandum

Date: 3 January 2022
To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee
From: William Miller – Department of Georgia Finance Committee Chairman
Subject: Proposed Change to Department of Georgia Bylaws

NEW ARTICLE SIX – FINANCE COMMITTEE, SECTION 600 – FINANCE COMMITTEE

Present: N/A

Proposed (Note: If adopted, this will require the renaming/renumbering of the current Article Six, Section 600, Article Seven, Section 700 and 701, Article Eight, Section 800, as well as adding Finance Committee to the list of Standing Committees listed in Article Two, Section 200, Subsection f.):

ARTICLE SIX

FINANCE COMMITTEE

SECTION 600 – FINANCE COMMITTEE

- a. The Finance Committee shall consist of at least four (4) members appointed by the Department Commandant and approved by the Board of Trustees.
- b. The four (4) Finance Committee members shall consist of three (3) Regular Members in good standing and one (1) Associate Member in good standing. The Department Senior Vice Commandant shall serve as the Chairman and the Department Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster shall serve as an advisor but may not be a voting member of the committee. Each member shall be appointed to a one (1) year term and may not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.
- c. The primary purpose of the Finance Committee is to oversee the financial welfare of the Department of Georgia as well as provide feedback and recommendations to the Department of Georgia Board of Trustees and the Department of Georgia membership. This will include the preparation and presentation of an annual budget, which shall be approved by the Board of Trustees and distributed to the Department of Georgia

Detachment Commandants for distribution within their Detachments no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the Department Annual Convention business meeting, where it shall be voted on by the membership. Once approved, any changes to the annual budget must be presented at a Department of Georgia Meeting for approval by the membership.

Rationale: As the Department of Georgia grows, there is a need to improve our financial awareness of how Department funds are utilized. In the past, the Finance Committee has been created as Non-Standing Committee and this amendment will ensure it is a Standing Committee. By adding a budget responsibility to the Finance Committee, this allows the Department of Georgia membership an opportunity to participate in the process of deciding how their funds are distributed as well as creating spending limits, based on budget line items, that will allow the Department of Georgia Board of Trustees to better operate. Any increase to a budget line item will require the approval of those members in attendance at a Department of Georgia meeting.



Judge Advocate - Lisa Delk

P.O. Box 420 * Locust Grove, GA 30248

To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee

From: Lisa Delk, Judge Advocate

Re: Proposed change to Department of Georgia Bylaws and Administrative Procedures

Current:

ARTICLE SEVEN - AMENDMENTS - CHANGES TO DEPARTMENT BYLAWS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

SECTION 700 - AMENDMENTS - CHANGES

- a. Recommendations for Amendments/Changes to the Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures for consideration at the Department Convention shall be received in writing by the Department Judge Advocate. Individual members, Detachments, or the Department Commandant may submit Amendments or Changes. The deadline for receipt of proposed changes shall be 15 February. Review of these recommendations by the Department Bylaw Committee shall be conducted as directed in SECTION 210, d., (4). Copies of these recommendations shall also be mailed to all Detachment Commandants and Judge Advocates by the Department Adjutant as proscribed in SECTION 210, d., (4).
- b. Changes accepted by a majority of the body at meetings other than Department Conventions, as noted above, will be adopted as "Proposed" changes. The approved version will then be considered by the Bylaws Committee in accordance with SECTION 210, paragraph d. (4) of these Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

Proposed: (Note: If adopted, this will require a new Chapter Two - Amendments to Department Administrative Procedures which should provide the procedure by which Detachments or members may propose changes to the Administrative Procedures for consideration by the Department Board of Trustees.)

ARTICLE SEVEN - AMENDMENTS - CHANGES TO DEPARTMENT BYLAWS

- a. Recommendations for Amendments/Changes to the Department Bylaws for consideration at the Department Convention shall be received in writing by the Department Judge Advocate. Individual members, Detachments, or the Department Commandant may submit Amendments or Changes. The deadline for receipt of proposed changes shall be 15 February. Review of these recommendations by the Department Bylaw Committee shall be conducted as directed in SECTION 210, d., (4). Copies of these recommendations shall also be mailed to all Detachment Commandants and Judge Advocates by the Department Adjutant as proscribed in SECTION 210, d., (4).
- b. Changes accepted by a majority of the body at meetings other than Department Conventions, as noted above, will be adopted as "Proposed" changes. The approved version will then be considered by the Bylaws Committee in accordance with SECTION 210, paragraph d. (4) of these Department Bylaws.

Rationale:

While they do work in conjunction with each other, Bylaws and Administrative Procedures are separate documents. Simply stated, Bylaws outline what must be done, and Administrative Procedures outline how to do it. Robert's Rules of Order, Chapter One, Section Two, allows for the amendment of "Standing Rules" or administrative procedures without a formal vote by the body. As currently written, this provision requires that the Department of Georgia follow the formal amendment procedure to change the Administrative Procedures, and changes can only be made annually at the Department Convention. If adopted, the revised provision would effectively separate the Department Bylaws from the Administrative Procedures and allow for any proposed changes to the Administrative Procedures to be decided on by a vote of the Board of Trustees at any time during the year.



Judge Advocate - Lisa Delk

P.O. Box 420 * Locust Grove, GA 30248

Respectfully submitted,

Semper Fidelis!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Delk".

Lisa Delk
Judge Advocate
Department of Georgia

cc: To file



Judge Advocate - Lisa Delk

P.O. Box 420 * Locust Grove, GA 30248

To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee

From: Lisa Delk, Judge Advocate

Re: Proposed change to Department of Administrative Procedures

New:

CHAPTER TWO - AMENDMENTS TO DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

SECTION 200 - AMENDMENTS - CHANGES

- a. Recommendations for Amendments/Changes to the Department Administrative Procedures for consideration by the Department Board of Trustees shall be received in writing by the Department Judge Advocate. Any individual members or detachments who are in good standing may submit Amendments or Changes.
- b. The Judge Advocate shall report any proposed amendments or changes to the Board of Trustees and may call a meeting of the Board for the purpose of approving or disapproving the proposed amendments or changes.
- c. Changes approved by the Board of Trustees shall be sent out to the Detachment Commandants for dissemination to all Detachment members, and reported on at the next quarterly meeting of the Department.

RATIONALE:

In the event of approval of the Amendment to Article Seven of the Department Bylaws, members and Detachments within the Department of Georgia will need some guidelines on how to submit changes to The Administrative Procedures. The addition of a Chapter Two (or Chapter Three if renumbering is required) will provide those guidelines.

Respectfully submitted,

Semper Fidelis!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Delk".

Lisa Delk

cc: To file



Judge Advocate - Lisa Delk

P.O. Box 420 * Locust Grove, GA 30248

To: Department of Georgia Bylaws Committee

From: Lisa Delk, Judge Advocate

Re: Proposed change to Department of Georgia Bylaws

Article One, Section 120 - New Paragraph E - Attendance

If adopted, the new paragraph will read as follows:

- e. Attendance - Every Detachment shall have at least one representative present at every quarterly meeting of the Department. Non-compliance could result in a monetary fine and/or official action to be determined by the Department Board of Trustees in accordance with Section 6045 of the National Administrative Procedures.

Rationale:

The quarterly meetings of the Department are the best, most comprehensive resource available to Detachments, yet often less than half of the Detachments in Georgia are represented at these meetings. As a result, many of our Detachments are not up to date on the events and activities of the Department and other nearby Detachments. This lack of participation is not only detrimental to the Department, but is also a great disservice to those Detachments who are not represented. Mandatory attendance at the quarterly meetings would go a long way towards ensuring that all Detachments have the most current and relevant information available to disseminate to their members.

Respectfully submitted,

Semper Fidelis!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Delk".

Lisa Delk
Judge Advocate
Department of Georgia

cc: To file