



FULFILLING OUR PROMISES
TO THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVED

Constitution and Bylaws of Department of Mississippi

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I AUTHORITY

Section 1. Under the authority of Article IV of the National Constitution of the Disabled American Veterans, a National Corporation, there has been and is hereby established as the "Department of Mississippi Disabled American Veterans", in the State of Mississippi.

ARTICLE II ALLEGIANCE

Section 1. This Department recognizes the National Organization known as Disabled American veterans, incorporated by Act of Congress, 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. Paragraph 5, of the National Bylaws.

Section 2. No Chapter or any member or member, by virtue of membership in this Department, shall acquire any property rights or any present or existing rights in or to the property which this Department may now have or hereafter acquire. Each Chapter, for itself and its members, agree upon dissolution of these Department, its assets remain after payment of its indebtedness, if any shall be reduced to cash and contributed to National Headquarters where it will be held for eighteen months, after which it becomes the property of the National Department in the event the chapters in this state fail to reorganize a State Department within such period. Each Chapter also agrees by accepting that no member of any chapter or Department Officer shall receive any money or any other thing of value from this department, because of any services rendered to or for this Department, unless the same is expressly authorized as provided hereafter.

ARTICLE III

PURPOSE

Section 1. To uphold the Constitution and the laws of the United States; to realize the true American ideas and aims for which those eligible to membership fought; to advance the interest and work for the betterment of all wounded, gassed, injured, and disabled veterans. to cooperate with the Department of Veterans Affairs and all other public agencies devoted to the cause of improving and advancing the condition, health, and interest of all wounded, gassed, injured, and disabled veterans; to serve our comrades, community and our country; to encourage in all people the spirit of understanding which will guard against the future.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The members of this Department shall be all the active Disabled American Veterans Chapters in the State of Mississippi which have been or are hereafter chartered by the National Department, as long as such Chapters remain in good standing as determined by the National Department.

Section 2. Eligibility for membership in the Chapters of this Department shall be as provided in Article III of the National Constitution as now exists or hereafter amended.

Section 3. The Disabled American Veterans shall not have honorary membership. All veterans eligible for membership shall be accepted for membership.

ARTICLE 2

CONVENTION

Section 1. The supreme powers of this Department shall be vested in a Department Convention to be held at least 30 days prior to the convening of the Nation Convention, at a place determined by the preceding Department Convention; provided, however, that the Department Executive Committee may change the time and place if it appears that the convention cannot be held satisfactorily at the time and place selected by the convention.

Section 2. In the event of circumstances beyond the control of the DAV or the Convention City Committee to carry out the mandates of the preceding Department Convention regarding the time and place, the Department Executive Committee shall be vested with the sole power to chose an alternate city if necessary and/or to set new dates for holding the convention, but not to exceed thirty days beyond the dates prescribed by the Department Bylaws unless prohibited by a National Emergency.

Section 3. The Department Adjutant shall give a complete summary of the conditions existing in the Convention City, regarding their ability to hold a convention; such report shall be made thirty days prior to the dates set for the convention.

Section 4. At each State Convention each Chapter shall be entitled to three delegates and three alternates and in addition to one delegate and one Alternate for each fifteen (15) Members or fraction thereof for whom per-capita tax has been received by the Department Adjutant or Treasurer at least ten (10) days prior to the opening date of such said State Convention, provided, however, that recognition shall not be extended to the designated delegates of any Chapter which is indebted to the National Organization in any amount and provided further that unless the provisions of this section are strictly complied with no representation from any Chapter will be seated.

Section 5. Each elected officer, each Past Department Commander, each member of the State Executive Committee who was elected by the preceding State Convention and each credited delegate of the Convention shall be entitled to one vote at the State Convention and in case one person who is elected or appointed to more than one office they shall have only one vote, provided however, that an appropriate registration fee per delegate shall be paid by each Chapter to the State Treasurer fifteen (15) days prior to the convening of the State Convention, and provided further that an appropriate registration fee shall be charged for each elected officer, State Adjutant and the State Treasurer and this amount shall be paid to the State Treasurer no later than five (5) days prior to the convening of the State convention. Each Past Department Commander shall comply with the above provisions. The vote of any Chapter delegate who may be absent and replaced his/her respective alternate becomes a delegate in the absence of a delegate. All Alternates, not representing delegates, shall have all the privileges of the delegates, except the privilege of vote.

Section 6. A quorum shall exist in the convention when the delegates of three (3) chapters in good standing are present.

Section 7. In the call for the annual State Convention, the State Executive Committee, subject to the approval of the State Commander, shall have full power to provide for the form of credentials and all other matters incident to the convening of such convention and the rules and regulations therefore, which are not otherwise specifically covered by this constitution. Immediately after the State Convention, it has been called to order, for the conduct of such business as may come before it, the Department Commander shall appoint a Credentials Committee of not more than one (1) member from each Chapter present at the Convention, which with the assistance of the Department Adjutant, shall make out a roll call of all Department Officers, Executive Committeemen, Past Department Commanders, and all chapters showing the number of votes to which each is entitled. And shall present such report and roll call to the first business of the State Convention, officially extending voting privileges to the delegates of such Chapters as have complied with the provisions of Section 2 and 3 of Article IV hereof.

Section 8. The Department Convention shall be composed of the elected Department Officers, the Past Department Commanders, and the delegates and alternates representing the chapters of the Department.

Section 9. Mandates and resolutions adopted at each Department Convention shall be effective until the next convention, unless re-adopted at such Convention.

Section 10. All Chapter delegates and alternates shall be elected fifteen (15) days prior to the Convention and shall be certified to the State Department on forms provided by the State Department.

Section 11. No officer, Past Department Commander, delegate or alternate shall be entitled to cast a vote at a Department Convention unless he/she is then a member in good standing, who has registered and paid the registration fee, the Convention registrar shall furnish the Department Adjutant the registration list of all Department Officers, Past department Commanders and Chapter Delegates who have registered and are qualified to vote.

ARTICLE 3

RULES OF THE CONVENTION

The rules of the Convention shall be as follows:

Rule 1. Roberts Rules of Order, revised, will govern as hereafter stated.

Rule 2. For the purpose of recognition, a member of this Convention must (1) stand, (2) address the chair as 'Comrade Commander', (3) state his/her name and Chapter, Department or Title, and (4) shall 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.

Rule 4. Not more than two representatives from a Chapter shall be permitted to discuss any one subject, except by a two-third consent.

Rule 5. Recognition shall be granted only once to any one speaker on any subject. A rebuttal of not more than three (3) minutes may be permitted.

Rule 6. All resolutions and amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws must be submitted to the office of the Department Adjutant, in proper resolution form, in triplicate, and must be typed, and be signed by the sponsors. No resolution or amendment to the Bylaws shall be accepted after three (3) P.M. of the first day of the convention, except by unanimous consent.

Rule 7. Each Chapter delegation shall select a chairman, who shall announce the vote of the delegation. When the poll of any delegation is demanded by a delegation thereof entitled to vote, the chairman shall poll the vote of such delegation without debate or discussion.

Rule 8. In viva voice voting on any subject before the Convention, no person shall participate except fully accredited delegates and alternates acting as delegates, who have registered and paid the registration fee.

Rule 9. Voting shall be viva Voice, except when a roll call is demanded by the chairman or acting chairman of the convention, except in case of the election of Department Officers and except in the selection of the next Convention City, provided, however, that the election of a Department officer or election of the next Convention City, may be made by viva voice when there is no contest. All roll calls shall be in the order as listed by the Adjutant.

Rule 10. Nomination for Department Officers shall be from the Nomination Committee or from the floor.

Rule 11. Only one nominating speech and one seconding speech shall be permitted for each candidate for an elective office.

Rule 12. In the event more than two candidates are nominated for one office, the balloting shall continue until one candidate shall have received a majority of the votes cast by the Convention.

Rule 13. Discussion of personal grievance, local conditions, and claims concerning one individual only, with respect to his personal interest, shall not be in order before the Convention, but may be discussed before the Committee of the Convention, Etc.

Rule 14. There shall be no voting by proxy and there shall be no election of individuals to a Department Office who is not present at the Convention.

Rule 15. The following committees are hereby provided as the standing committees of the Convention. They will meet at the call of the Convention, the Department Commander or the Chairman of the Committee.

- (a) Committee on Legislation
- (b) Committee on Constitution and Bylaws
- (c) Committee on Finance
- (d) Committee on Time and Place
- (e) Committee on Resolutions
- (f) Committee on Credentials
- (g) Committee on Nominations of Department Officers
- (h) Any others deemed necessary by the Department Commander

ARTICLE 4

DEPARTMENT ORGNIZATION

Section 1. The Department of Mississippi shall be organized into local units termed Chapters, which shall make application to the Department, who shall submit the application to National headquarters. Upon approval of the National Department and State Department the charter shall be issued, which must be signed by the State Commander and Adjutant.

Section 2. Chapters shall be organized and chartered as provided in the Bylaws, Article VI. All Chapters shall submit a chapter officer report to the State Adjutant and the National Adjutant no later than ten (10) days after the Installation of Officers.

Section 3. Each chapter must adopt its own Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations, and determine its own dues, provided that the same does not conflict with the provisions of this Constitution or any lawful action taken by the Department Convention, or with the National Constitution and bylaws, and provided, further, that the same, and all amendments thereto, have been approved by the Department Judge Advocate and the National Judge Advocate.

ARTICLE 5

DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Section 1. The Department Convention shall elect a Department Commander, a Department Senior Vice Command, a Department First Junior Vice Commander, a Department Second Junior Vice commander, a Department Sgt-at-Arms, a Department Chaplain, and a Department Judge Advocate. No two Vice Commanders shall be elected from the same Highway District; provided that no member shall be elected to more than one Department office, and the annual nominations and elections of officers shall be the day of the last business session and that the officers will be installed after the election is completed. (Appointed Officers See Section 5.)

Section 2. The Department Senior Vice Commander and the Department First Junior Vice Commander, and the Department Second Junior Vice Commander, in the order named, shall, in the event of death, resignation, absence or removal of the Department Commander, serve as Commander, and shall be responsible for the promotion of member ship in their respective Highway Districts.

Section 3. All officers elected at the State Convention shall hold office from the time of their election and installation until a successor in office shall have been duly elected and installed. Vacancies in such offices, occurring between State Conventions, by reason of Death, Resignation or indefinite absence from the State, shall be filled by the majority of the votes of members of the State Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Department Commanders term of office shall be limited to two (2) years, and he shall not consecutively succeed himself/herself.

Section 5. Immediately after adjournment of the State Convention, the Commander shall, with the approval of the State Executive Committee, appoint a Department Adjutant, a Women's Veterans Coordinator, Benefits Protection Team leader, Public Affairs Representative, Chief of Staff, Inspector General, and a Finance Chairman, all of whom shall serve at the pleasure of the Commander. The Department may employ two (2) Department (DSO)/ Hospital service Coordinators (HSC) to be stationed at the VA Medical Centers in Jackson and Biloxi, MS. Their supervisor will be by a committee composed of the Department Commander, Department Adjutant, and the National Service Office Supervisor or designated supervisor.

Section 6. The Department Commander in office at the time of the National Convention shall automatically be declared a delegate to such National Convention to represent this Department. In the event of the inability of the Department Commander to attend the National Convention, the Senior Vice Commander shall serve as alternate in his stead. The question of expenses of the State Commander to the National Convention shall be optional at each State Convention to approve the funds needed.

Section 7. The Department Commander is the Executive Officer of this Department. He/she shall preside at all State Conventions, all meetings of the State Executive Committee. He/she shall maintain order and dispatch such business as may legally come before him. All checks and vouchers issued by the Department Adjutant must be countersigned by him/her. He/she shall perform all such other duties as may reasonably be assumed to be incidental to his/her office and of such as are delegated to him by the preceding Department Conventions, or the State Executive Committee. He/she shall give bond as required by the National Bylaws, Article XIV, section 14.9.

Section 8. The Department Adjutant shall also serve as Department Treasurer and shall deposit all money for the Department. He/she shall make authorized disbursements only by numbered checks or Department Credit Card sustained by itemized account, the checks shall be countersigned by the Department Commander. He/she shall keep a system of accounts, approved by the State Finance Committee, and shall preserve all receipts and cancelled checks. He/she shall render a report of receipts and expenditures to the State Finance Committee, meetings, and write an annual report at the State Convention, which must, by order of the State Finance Committee, have been legally audited, and which shall be submitted to the Convention Finance Committee for its analysis, criticism, and recommendation for approval or disapproval. In addition to other duties and powers set forth in these Bylaws, the Department Adjutant shall be the Executive Director of the Organization. The Department Adjutant can be dismissed only with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 9. The Department Adjutant shall keep a true and complete record of all business conducted by the department, and its State Executive Committee. He shall conduct all necessary correspondence, carry into effect motions, orders, and resolutions of the Department Convention and Committees, not otherwise assigned.

Keep list of Chapter members, and as far as feasible, a list of all eligible, together with addresses and occupational status; receive all per-capita tax due from chapters and turn same over to the Department's Treasurer for deposit; officially notifying all members of the State Executive Committee of the time and place of regular and special meetings thereof, if possible at least five (5) days in advance thereof, in any event sufficient time in advance thereof to enable them to be in attendance at any such meetings; keep all members of the State Executive, or the Executive Sub-Committee; and record all actions taken by such committees; and addition to other duties specifically assign to him/her by the Department Commander, or the State Executive Committee, State Executive Sub-Committee shall render such services as may be incidental and necessary to help increase the membership activities, services and effectiveness of the Disabled American Veterans incorporated.

Section 10. The Department Chaplain shall perform such duties as are prescribed in the official rituals of the National Organization.

Section 11. The Department Sgt-at Arms shall be responsible to the Department Commander for those in attendance at a meeting of the State Convention as to their eligibility to participate therein and shall report to the Department Commander as to any visitors present. He shall obey and enforce the orders of the Department Commander in preserving order at the meetings of the State Convention.

Section 12. The Department Historian shall be the custodian of the records of all published items relative to the activity of this organization in the state, and shall furnish at each State Convention, a history report.

Section 13. Para. (1) The Department Inspector shall investigate any alleged violation of Chapter, Department or National Constitution and Bylaws including but not limited to occurrences which may impugn the integrity of the Disabled American Veterans Organization.

Para. (2) The Department Inspector shall inspect and/or audit the books, records and accounts of any Chapter.

Para. (3) Upon the completion of an investigation, inspection or audit, the Department Inspector shall render a written report of his findings and recommendations to the Department Commander and the Department Adjutant for their action.

Para. (4) The Department Inspector is under the direction of the Department Commander and shall not act on any request without prior approval of the Department Commander.

ARTICLE 6

DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. There shall be a Department Executive Committee which shall consist of all elected officers and the Immediate Past Department Commander, who shall receive no expenses unless authorized by the Committee. The Department Adjutant shall act as the Secretary of the Executive Committee without a vote.

Section 2. The term of office of all State Executive Committeemen shall begin immediately upon the adjournment of the State Convention at which they were installed and shall end at the adjournment of the succeeding State Convention.

Section 3. Between State Conventions, all legislative, administrative and executive matters not otherwise specifically covered by the provisions of this Constitution or by resolutions adopted at the preceding State Convention, shall be determined by the majority vote of the Department Executive Committee.

Section 4. Within twenty-four (24) hours after the adjournment of a State Convention the Executive Committee shall meet in the city in which the State Convention was held, to determine, insofar as possible, policies to be adhered to by the Executive Officers of this Department, until the time of the next annual State Convention, or until such policies may be modified by a subsequent meeting of the State Executive Committee. At the first meeting of the State Executive Committee, a Sub-Committee of three members, of whom one (1) shall be the Department Commander, the second one (1) shall be the Department Adjutant and the third one (1) shall be the Senior Vice Commander. Such Executive Sub-Committee shall take care of all administrative matters in between meetings of the State Executive Committee, provided, however, that it shall not initiate any policy or take any action which may be inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution, or inconsistent with the resolutions adopted by the Department Convention or with any action which may have been taken by the entire State Executive Committee. The Department Adjutant shall keep a complete record of all such actions as may be taken by the Executive Sub-Committee and shall be reported in full at the next succeeding meeting of the State Executive Committee, provided, however, that any five (5) Chapters may at any time call on any member of Sub-Committee for a written report in full to them and to all members of the State Executive Committee.

Section 5. The Department Commander, or a majority of the State Executive Committee, shall have the authority to call for a meeting of the entire State Executive Committee at any time between State Conventions, provided that when majority so notifies the Commander of their intention to call a meeting of the entire Executive Committee, it shall be the duty of the commander to call said meeting within fifteen (15) days.

Section 6. A majority of the members of the State Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum to conduct such business as may come before any of its meetings.

Section 7. Either the Department commander or the Department Adjutant shall have the power to submit in writing to the members of the State Executive Committee a referendum on any question except the appropriation of any monies in the State Treasury, which such officers may deem of sufficient importance to be referred, and any such questions may be determined on the basis of a written ballot from a majority of the member of the State Executive Committee and the Executive Officers of this Department shall thereupon be guided accordingly. The results of the vote on any such referendum and ballot shall be conveyed in writing by the Department Adjutant to all members of the State Executive Committee.

Section 8. All legal matters, concerning which there may be any reasonable doubt, may be referred either by the Department Commander or Department Adjutant to the Department Judge Advocate, who shall thereupon furnish his/her reaction thereto in writing, providing, however, that final authority shall rest with the State Executive Committee, and as provided in the National Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 9. Subject to the approval of the State Executive Committee, the Department Commander shall have the power to appoint any such committee to function in any matters which he/she may deem necessary, but, in no case, is any such committee to give publicity to any of its findings or recommendations without the consent of the Department Commander; provided further that all committees shall report to the annual State Convention.

Section 10. All Action concerning suspension and revocation of Chapters shall be in accordance with Article 6, Section 6.4 of the National Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 11. Each Chapter shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received, expended and remitted; all money must be deposited in the name of said Chapter, and shall have an accounting made of the same annually, not later than ninety (90) days after the end of the accounting year which is July 1 to June 30. A copy of which shall be submitted to the State Department and the National Organization when required.

Section 12. No withdrawals or transfers or payments from such funds as may have been credited to this Department shall be permitted except based on a numbered check system or the Department Credit Card. All Checks must be signed by the Department Commander.

Section 13. At all State Conventions and State Executive Committee meetings, only the actual expenses of the elected State Officers and the Adjutant shall be paid from the State treasurer. This payment of expenses of the Executive Committee, to be paid only if sufficient funds are available.

Section 14. The State Commander shall receive his actual and necessary expenses on all trips while engaged in the business of Department Commander; that he/she may upon approval of the State Executive Committee, pay the State Adjutant for his/her services in keeping records of the State Department, or pay for rehabilitation services and other expenses of the Department of Mississippi, such as stamps, printing, etc., but in no event shall he/she make any expenditures or obligate the Department of Mississippi, except for his/her own traveling expense unless he/she has prior approval of the majority of the State Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 7

FINANCE AND REVENUE

Section 1. The revenue of the State Organization shall be derived from per capita tax; contributions and such other sources as may be approved by the State Executive Committee and the National Executive Committee.

Para. 2. All monies received by the State Department on fund-raising activities, which are so approved, shall be retained by such State Department. Any monies which are invested in a savings or CD plan cannot be removed without the approval of the Financial Committee, except monies which may be invested for Short Term Intent.

Para 3. The revenue of Chapters and units of subordinate and Auxiliary Organizations of this organization shall be derived from dues, contributions, and such other sources as maybe approved by the State Department within which the same is located; provided that no prior approval shall be required for a fund raising project where it is expected that the commissions are to be paid and solicitation of funds shall be only by personal contact of friends or members. All monies received by local chapters on fund-raising activities so approved except as may lawfully be required to be paid to the State Department, having jurisdiction over such Chapter, shall be retained by such Chapter. If there is no Department, approval must be obtained from the National Finance Committee.

Para. 4. The annual service fee shall be paid by each Chapter to National Headquarters with the per capita tax and shall be used only and exclusively for the financing of the National Service Department.

Para. 5. The State Department shall proclaim a State DAV Forget-Me-Not-Month, to be publicized Statewide for the benefit of all Chapters who may elect to hold their annual Forget-Me-Not Drive during that period.

Section 2. The Finance Committee shall be composed of the Department Commander, the Department Adjutant, the senior elected officer in his area, with one additional member to be chosen by the committee, who shall be readily available for meetings of the committee.

Para. 2. The senior Vice Commander shall be ex-officio, a member of the State Finance Committee without right to vote except on the absence of the State Commander.

Para. 3. It shall be the responsibility of the State Finance Committee to provide for audit of all accounts and to see that the proper bonds are in force on all employees who are trusted with the handling of funds and revenue; it is the responsibility of this committee to see that bond premiums are paid and that the finances of the organization are handled at all times to secure a economic and business like administration of its financial affairs.

Para. 4. Regular meetings of the State Finance Committee shall be held as the committee may determine, but not less often than quarterly and special meetings may be called by the State Commander or any three members of the State Finance Committee upon notice to all members of the committee.

Para 5. The State Finance Committee, under these Bylaws, serves a twofold purpose; namely, it is the Advisory Council of the State Commander on matters of finance and fiscal policy, and likewise, it is the watchdog of state finances.

Para. 6. (a) This organization shall operate under a budget which shall be set up by the State Finance Committee before each State Convention, after consideration of proposed budgets by all department heads. This budget shall be submitted to the convention for adoption or rejection. Itemized copies of the proposed budget shall be given to each registrant upon registration. In the event the budget so submitted is rejected, it shall be returned to the State Finance Committee with directions and be resubmitted to the State Convention for approval or rejection. In the event the State Convention shall adjourn without approving the budget, the State Executive Committee shall determine the budget. Subject to the approval of the State Executive Committee, the State Finance Committee may transfer and authorize expenditures from items within the approved budget for the purposes approved by said budget as the need may be justified and as finances shall permit.

(b) Proper financial statements, showing income and expenditures, assets and liabilities shall be submitted to all chapters or designated officers of states without a department, via the State Executive Committee, promptly following the Mid-Winter meeting of said body, for the portion of the fiscal year preceding said meeting, and there shall be submitted to the next State Convention and every Convention thereafter, financial statements showing comparative compliance with the previous year's budget.

Para. 7. All funds received in the name of the State Department, by any officer or committee thereof shall be deposited forthwith in such depositories as may be designated by the State Finance Committee, where such funds shall be and remain the property of this organization until such time as they are properly expended or remitted in accordance with the regulations of the State Finance Committee, provided however, that in case of an extraordinary fund-raising enterprise entered into, the committee in charge of such activity may, with the approval of the State Finance Committee receive and expend from those receipts such amounts as may be necessary in the transaction of the particular business in which the committee is engaged. All such committees shall make a complete accounting of all receipts and expenditures which shall be submitted to the State Finance Committee for audit and approval.

Para. 8. No funds of the State Department shall be used for making loans or advances of any kind or character, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws.

Para. 9. No State Department, Chapter or Auxiliary until shall sponsor or conduct a lottery in the name of or using any part of the name of this organization.

Para. 10. Where most of the chapters of a city and/or county desire to undertake a city or county-wide fund-raising project without the concurrence of most of the chapters therein, prior approval therefore must be obtained from the State Department.

Para 11. If, in any city where there is more than one chapter, it is desired by the chapter to conduct a particular city-wide fund-raising project, then such chapter will advise all other chapters in such city of its intent to request approval and any chapter opposing the same shall immediately file its objection thereto with the State Department.

Para. 12. No Chapter, Auxiliary, or subordinate unite shall conduct a fund-raising project or activity within the territory of any other chapter or unit unless the approval of the chapter concerned is first received, except as otherwise expressly provided in this section.

Para. 13 Not less than ten (10) days prior to requesting approval of the State Executive Committee to conduct any fund-raising project or activity within the territory of any one or more chapters, the State Department shall notify all such chapters of its intentions and any chapter opposing the same shall immediately file its objections thereto with the State Executive Committee. (Note – all Department fund-raising projects require NEC prior approval.)

Para. 14. No state department of the DAV Auxiliary shall conduct any fund-raising project or fund-raising activity without prior consent of the Mississippi Department and the DAV Executive Committee.

Para. 15. No local unit of the DAV Auxiliary shall conduct any fund-raising project or fund-raising activity without the prior approval of the chapter with which it is affiliated and the DAV State Department or the DAV National Finance 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 of these Bylaws.

Para. 16. Any chapter or subordinate unit of the Auxiliary which shall conduct a fund-raising project without prior approval shall be subject to having its charter revoked.

Para 17. Any chapter and any DAV Auxiliary local unit, with its chapter's prior consent may conduct one For-Get-Me Not Drive annually, involving Soley 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 paragraphs 7,8,or 9 of section 2.

Para. 18. The Department of Mississippi DAV may conduct such a drive within the State, in territories where there is no chapter, with approval from the State Executive Committee.

Para. 19. All purchases from the National Department shall be for cash, credit card, except For-Get-Me-Not Supplies which may be delivered to chapters and department in good standing on a credit account. All such For-Get-Me-Not supplies purchased on open accounts must be paid for in full within thirty (30) days after the close of the drive.

Section 3, Para 1. The amount of the National per Capita tax on annual and life memberships shall be as prescribed in the National Constitution and Bylaws. This included the service fee.

Para. 2. The annual dues or National per-capita tax in this organization shall be paid on a full membership year basis. The membership year starts July 1 and ends the following June 30.

Section 4. The Department and Chapters should secure insurance to cover theft at their expense.

Section 5. The expense of the State Adjutant, except as otherwise specifically provided in these Bylaws, shall be determined by the State Finance Committee, with the approval of the State Executive Committee, depending on the finances available at each State Convention hereafter.

Para. 2. The Commander Shall Not be considered a paid employee of the State Department; and in lieu of compensation, he shall receive an amount as expenses for his tenure to be fixed by the State Finance Committee, with the approval of the State Executive Committee. Transportation expenses shall be allowed, in addition, depending on the finances available.

ARTICLE 8

CHARGES AND TRAILS

Section 1. Charges and trials and/or cause for complaints for disciplinary action against members of this organization shall be conducted strictly by the rules and procedures outlined in Article XVI, Section 16 of the national Constitution and Bylaws.

ARTICLE 9

POLICY

Section 1. The Disabled American Veterans has been organized for the purpose of serving the interest of the disabled, and therefore, none of its Department Officers or Chapter Officers shall in any official capacity take part in any partisan, political or sectarian questions, nor in any industrial disputes.

ARTICLE 10

AUXLLIARY ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The Disabled American Veterans, Department of Mississippi, recognize the following auxiliary organization to be known as the DAV Auxiliary and no other units or organizations other than those now prescribed in this Constitution and Bylaws shall be recognized in the Disabled American Veterans.

ARTICLE 11
DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS DOMICILE

Section 1. The Department of Mississippi Disabled American Veterans, department offices will remain in the War Memorial Building, Jackson, Mississippi, and no transfer or moving of the department offices will be permitted if there is a State Department of the Disabled American Veterans in the State of Mississippi.

ARTICLE 12
SUPREME AUTHORITY

Section 1. All matters not specifically covered under this Constitution and Bylaws shall be governed by the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Disabled American Veterans.

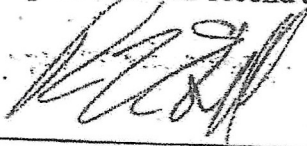
ARTICLE 13
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by any State Convention delegates by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting thereat, provided that such amendment will not become effective until approved by the National Judge Advocate.

Section 2. This Constitution and Bylaws shall not become in full force and effect until approved by the National Judge Advocate.

Section 3. Any of the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws are, or may at any time become, inconsistent of any conflict with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws and unlawful mandates, decisions and regulations of the National Organization, as now in force or as hereafter amended or adopted, this instrument shall be deemed amended as to conform thereto.

Adopted after this second and final reading on April 5, 2025


Rodger Hormell
Department Commander


Carroll Davis
Department Adjutant


Gary Gray
Department Judge Advocate


Michael Dobmeier
National Judge Advocate

I CERTIFY that the within constitution and/or by-laws does not conflict with those of the National Organization, and to that extent, is approved.

Date: 11.21.2025
DAV National Judge Advocate