KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO AMERICA'S VETERANS

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September 9, 2026

Mr. Enrique Ramos, Adjutant
Department of California
Disabled American Veterans
13733 Rosecrans Ave.
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

EIN: 95-0684372

Dear Adjutant Ramos:

The Constitution and Bylaws for the Department of California are hereby approved as of this date.

A copy of this document is being returned to the Department, and a copy is also being retained in our permanent files here at National Headquarters for future reference.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Dobmeier
National Judge Advocate

MED:js
Enclosure

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

&

RULES OF THE CONVENTION

Department of California

DAV

Established 1922

AS AMENDED BY

THE CALIFORNIA 104th ANNUAL

2026

STATE DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

HELD AT THE FERA HOTEL

ORANGE, CA

MAY 20-23, 2026

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BYLAWS
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

ARTICLE I
ANNUAL DEPARTMENT CONVENTION

Section 1.1: Time and Place

(a) The Annual Department Convention shall be held between May 15 -June 15 each year.

(b) The place where the Convention shall be held shall be determined by the SEC upon the recommendations made by the Adjutant.

(c) This Department recognizes the National Organization known as Disabled American Veterans, incorporated by Act of Congress, and 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, Paras. 5 and 8 of the National Bylaws.

Section 1.2: Notice

The State Adjutant shall give notice of the dates and place of the annual meeting to the Chapter Adjutants, at least sixty (60) days prior to the Department Convention. The State Adjutant shall also supply each Chapter with copies of the Convention agenda, so far as it is known, at least thirty (30) days in advance of the convention, in order that the members of each Chapter may have sufficient time to intelligently consider the business to be acted upon at the upcoming Convention and instruct their delegates accordingly.

Section 1.3: Delegates

Each Chapter shall elect no more than one delegate and one alternate for each fifteen (15) members or fraction thereof, and one delegate and one alternate for the Chapter Charter. Such delegates must be elected thirty (30) days prior to the Convention (except delegates for new Chapters) and their names certified by their respective Chapters and sent to the State Adjutant within fifteen (15) days after their election.

Section 1.4: Registration

All delegates, alternates, Past State Commanders and State Executive Committee-members shall be required to register with the State Adjutant and pay the regular registration fee before such representatives are privileged to serve on any Convention Committee or be recognized on the floor of the Convention at any of its sessions. The registration fee for such representative -shall not exceed $25, this does not include the Commanders Reception. The Chapter registration fee shall be set by the Department Finance Committee annually and shall be an amount charged to each member of a Chapter. These funds will only be used for Convention/Mid-Year meeting expenses including the transcription of these meetings.

Section 1.5: Composition

The Department Convention shall be composed of

(a) The Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander; Adjutant, Chaplain, and Judge Advocate;

(b) The Past State Commanders in good standing with the Department;

(c) The State Executive Committee-members of each District in good. standing, or if absent, the alternate, and the delegates.

Section 1.6: Quorum

A quorum shall exist when one-third (1/3) of the recognized Chapters are represented by registered delegates.

Section 1.7: Voting at Convention

Each of the foregoing members of the Convention referred to in Section 1.5 hereof shall be entitled to one (1) vote, except the Adjutant, Chaplain and Judge Advocate. In the absence of any delegate, the alternate shall act and vote. If one (1) delegate of a Chapter (or more than one (1) but less than the total number allowed) is present, the vote of the absent delegates from the Chapter shall be cast in the same proportion as the votes of the delegates from that Chapter who are present and voting.

No member of the Department may vote except in the manner provided in these Bylaws. There shall be no other form of unit rule, cumulative voting, or voting by proxy provided. although, it is to be understood that each delegate shall be deemed to have received a proxy from each and all members of the Chapter represented.

Section 1.8: Resolutions

All resolutions must be submitted to and received by DAV Headquarters Department of California, adopted and signed by the sponsoring Chapter, District, or Department Interim Committee, and printed or electronically not later than thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the Convention. In the event that an immediate need to submit a resolution for the benefit of the organization, or disabled veterans or their families arise after the submission deadline prior to the actual convening of the Convention; then such resolution may be submitted by 12:00 PM on the first day of the Convention.

Section 1.9: Election of Officers

A Commander, a Senior Vice Commander and a Junior Vice Commander shall be elected at each annual Convention.

Officers shall be elected in accordance with the Rules of the Convention; provided, however, that if there is only one (1) candidate, the nominee shall receive a unanimous vote.

ARTICLE II
STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 2.1: Composition and Election

The State Executive Committee (Referred to as SEC hereafter)

(a) Shall consist of the following State Officers: Junior Past Commander, Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Chaplain, Adjutant (who also shall serve as Secretary), the Judge Advocate (who shall act as legal advisor), and also one (1) member from each District in good standing to be elected from the membership, and which has no legal indebtedness owing and due to the Department. Each District shall also elect an alternate Committee-member.

(b) The Chapters from each even numbered District shall elect a State Executive Committee-member and an Alternate on even numbered years, and Chapters from each odd numbered District shall elect a State Executive Committee-member and an Alternate on odd numbered years. The term of office of each elected State Executive Committee-member and alternate shall be for two (2) years. In the event of the removal, death, resignation or inability to discharge the duties of his or her office, the duties shall devolve upon the Alternate State Executive Committee-member. In the event the office of the State Executive Committee-member becomes vacant, the

Alternate State Executive Committee-member will become the State Executive Committee-member and complete the present term of office. A new Alternate State Executive Committee-member will be elected at the next District meeting if the vacancy falls on the non-voting year.

Section 2.2: Quorum

A majority of all the members of the State Executive Committee, entitled to vote, shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2.3: Voting

Each member of the SEC shall be entitled to one (1) vote, except the Adjutant, Chaplain and Judge Advocate.

Section 2.4: Meetings

(a) The Committee shall meet in the city where the Convention is held, within twenty-four (24) hours immediately preceding and immediately following the Convention. The post-convention SEC shall conduct the routine business of committee appointments, approve appointments made by the new Commander and such other business as is referred to the SEC by the Convention, or any other pending action previously referred to the SEC for action; but it shall not conduct any new business that rightfully should have been presented to the Convention.

(b) The Department of California shall hold at least one (1) additional meeting of the SEC each year between Department Conventions and may hold additional meetings by written consent of a majority of the members of the State Executive Committee.

(c) The Commander may call additional meetings of the SEC at the Convention or by a two-thirds (2/3) written request of the State Executive Committee.

(d) A member desiring to speak before the SEC must first obtain permission from the State Executive Committee-member representing his district and must have the unanimous consent of all State Executive Committee-members present.

(e) (1) Each- State Executive Committee-member shall submit a written report to Department Headquarters no less than 30 days prior to the Mid-Winter Meeting and no less than 30 days prior to the Annual Department Convention. If the State Executive Committee-member notifies Department Headquarters or their Alternate prior to the 30-day timeline, then the Alternate State Executive Committee-member

shall submit a written report to be received by Department Headquarters no less than 30 days prior to the Mid-Winter SEC Meeting and no less than 30 days prior to the Annual Department Convention.

In the event that the Alternate State Executive Committee-member is not notified as stated above in this section, then the Alternate State Executive Committee-member shall submit a written report to be received by Department Headquarters no less than 48 hours prior to the scheduled Mid-Winter SEC Meeting and the Annual Department Convention.

(e) (2) In the event the State Executive Committee-member or the Alternate State Executive Committee-member does not comply with Section 2.4(e)(1), then they shall not be seated, shall not receive the per diem, and shall not receive the travel/mileage reimbursement for attending the meeting in which is not complied with.

Section 2.5: Mail Ballot

(a) The State Adjutant may use the mail/email ballot to conduct Department business between meetings of the State Executive Committee.

(b) The result of each mail ballot shall be published in the first issue of the Department Newsletter following the completion of the ballot. The same report will be made at the next SEC meeting. All ballots shall be kept by the Adjutant, open to inspection by any member of the Department, in good standing, until the close of the following Convention, and thereafter be kept in permanent files for three (3) years.

Section 2.6: Powers and Duties

(a) Upon recommendation of the State Commander, the SEC may, for cause, upon two-thirds (2/3) vote, recommend that the National Commander suspend any Charter for not over sixty (60) days, and may revoke any Charter effective when its action is approved by the National Executive Committee.

(b) The SEC by majority vote upon the request of the State Commander, or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote without such request, may terminate and declare vacant the office of any State Officer appointed by the Commander, including any appointed member of the Finance Committee or Claims and Service Commission.

(c) The SEC shall not under any circumstances enter a contract for employment with any Department employee or prospective employee which extends for a period beyond one (1) year, except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Committee.

(d) The SEC may exercise such powers specifically granted by the terms of the

Constitution and Bylaws of the National Organization, as now existing or thereafter amended; and such other and further powers as lawfully exercised by a board of directors of a non-profit California corporation; except such powers which may be expressly withheld, limited by or inconsistent with the National Constitution and Bylaws, these Bylaws, or any mandate of the last Department Convention.

(e) Upon recommendation of the State Commander, the State Executive Committee, by two-thirds (2/3) vote, may approve resolutions pertaining to legislation pending in the State of California Legislature, involving the interests and welfare of the veterans of California and their dependents, in which it is urgent that the position of the Disabled American Veterans-Department of California, regarding such legislation be made known.

Section 2.7: SEC Expenses

(a) Each member of the State Executive Committee, as designated in Section 2.1 of this Article, or alternate acting as such, shall be paid round-trip transportation between their residence and the place of the meeting, with a per diem expense as the Finance Committee shall determine as proper for each called meeting attended.

(b) No fare, mileage or per diem expense shall be paid to any State Executive Committee-member for attendance at a meeting of the Committee, where they shall be receiving expenses for a meeting of any other Committee or Commission of the Department or any corporation, subsidiary or auxiliary to the Department held about the same time and place as the SEC meeting.

ARTICLE III
OFFICERS

Section 3.1: Election of Commander

No elected State Commander shall succeed themselves to a position on the Department Line. The State Commander shall not hold any other elected and/or appointed State Office except for Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee (if vacant), while serving as State Commander.

Section 3.2: Tenure

The tenure of office for State Officers shall be from the adjournment of the Convention at which

they are elected or appointed, until the adjournment of the following Convention: except that of the State Executive Committee-members whose tenure shall be for two (2) years as provided in Article II, Sec.2.1 (b).

Section 3.3: Appointed Officers

(a) ***The State Commander, with the approval of the State Executive Committee, shall appoint a Chaplain, a Judge Advocate, a State Chief of Staff, Deputy Chiefs of Staff for each District, Finance Committee-members, Legislative Director, Officer of the Day, and a Sergeant-at-Arms. They shall, with the approval of the State Executive Committee, appoint such other Officers they feel may be needed for the best interest of the Department.***

(b) In the event that the majority of the State Executive Committeemen fail to ratify any appointed Officer either by mail ballot or in session, the State Commander shall propose another member in good standing for the particular office.

(c) All elected Officers and such other officers as mentioned in this section are the only members of the Department permitted to wear white caps during their term in office. Past State Commanders in good standing are permitted to wear blue and gold caps.

Section 3.4: Commander

(a) The State Commander shall be the Presiding Officer at the Department Convention, and at all meetings of the State Executive Committee. They shall perform the duties of a President of a corporation, as defined by (or within limits of) these Bylaws or the National Constitution and Bylaws.

(b) They shall, with the approval of the State Executive Committee, appoint such Committees as may be provided by these Bylaws, and any other Committees they feel may be needed for the best interest of the Department.

(c) They shall represent the Department at the National Convention.

Section 3.5: Senior Vice-Commander

The Senior Vice-Commander shall perform all the duties of the Commander during the Commander's absence from the State of California, or incapacity; and shall perform such other duties as may reasonably be assigned to that office by the State Commander. They shall be Chairman of the Department Membership Committee.

Section 3.6: Junior Vice-Commander

The Junior Vice-Commander shall perform the duties of the Senior Vice-Commander upon their incapacity to act and shall also perform such other duties as may reasonably be assigned to them by the State Commander.

Section 3.7: Chaplain

(a) Qualification: Must be duly recognized by their own religious group as a clergy-member (Priest, Rabbi, or Minister). If no clergy-member is available, a layperson of extremely good character may be selected.

(b) Responsibilities: Provides spiritual needs of the Department of California and cooperate with the Auxiliary Chaplain in planning and presenting the Memorial Service at Department Convention. The Chaplain will attend, if possible, the SEC meetings.

Section 3.8: Judge Advocate

The Judge Advocate:

(a) Shall be the legal advisor and the parliamentarian of the Department.

(b) Must approve or disapprove all amendments to the Department Bylaws and all Chapter Constitutions and/or Bylaws and any amendments thereto. Any disapproval thereof shall be final, unless set aside by the National Judge Advocate.

(c) Shall preside over contested hearings as law judge thereof, with the power to swear witnesses, rule on questions of law, fairly comment on the evidence and instruct the body conducting the hearings as to questions of law. Any member, chapter or party involved with the controversy, may designate a person to represent them, without cost to the Department.

(d) Shall have the discretionary power to render opinions which, if adopted by the State Commander as the latter's decision, shall be final, subject to an appeal to the SEC at its next meeting.

(e) Shall be an ex-officio member, without voting rights, on the Claims & Service Commission as set out in Article IV of these Bylaws.

(f) Shall be an ex-officio member, without voting rights, of the standing Finance Committee as set out in Article VI of these Bylaws.

Section 3.9: Adjutant-Treasurer

(Referred to as Adjutant hereafter)

The Adjutant:

(a) Shall keep a record of all Chapters within the Department; including members thereof, and within ninety (90) days after the adjournment of the Annual

Department Convention shall mail to each Chapter Adjutant a printed roster of the active Chapters with names and address of the Commander, Adjutant, Service Officers, Department Officers, District State Executive Committee-members and Chapter Adjutants, and such other information as may be appropriate.

(b) Shall receive all communications, conduct all correspondence, and maintain copies of such communications as part of the permanent record of the Department.

(c) Shall receive and maintain receipt of all monies.

(d) ***Shall have charge of the official seal and financial records of the Department as an authorized custodian and user. The Adjutant must provide transparency with all financial operations and will maintain records in an organized, secure, and accessible manner.***

(e) Shall receipt for all personal property of the Department delivered by their predecessor and deliver to the Commander an inventory of such property, upon taking office

(f) Shall deposit all funds received, in such Banks and/or Savings and Loan Associations as the Finance Committee may direct to the credit of the Department.

(g) Shall be the custodian of records. In accordance with California nonprofit governance requirements and other applicable state and federal laws, the Adjutant will maintain books, records of account, and minutes as required under California Corporations Code, and will retain records for at least the minimum periods required by law. The Adjutant will keep required records in written form or in any format capable of being converted into clearly legible tangible form, and ***shall make records available for audits at all times.***

(h) Shall submit to the Finance Committee, no later than thirty (30) days prior to the May quarterly meeting, a financial statement as of March 31 prepared by a California licensed accounting firm. The Adjutant shall also prepare and submit a proposed budget outlining the estimated receipts and expenditures of all Department funds for the coming fiscal year. The proposed budget shall be provided to the Finance Committee no later than thirty (30) days prior to the State Convention. An annual audit shall be conducted as of June 30 by a California licensed accounting firm.

(i) ***Shall mail to all elected State Officers and Finance Committee-members, quarterly reports as of the last days of March, September and December of each year, within forty-five (45) days after each of the said dates, as prepared by a California licensed accountant. The annual audit will be displayed on the DAV***

California Website after receipt from the auditor. Individual copies will be furnished to Chapters upon request.

(j) Shall render statements to all Chapters, as of April 30, before each Department Convention of each Chapter's indebtedness to the Department, if any. On payment of such amount, the Chapter shall be considered free and clear of all indebtedness for the limited purpose of determining whether its delegates shall be entitled to a seat and vote at upcoming Conventions.

(k) Shall be responsible to the Department Finance Committee and the SEC for the management of all business and fund-raising projects of the Department.

(l) ***The Adjutant shall be a full-time employee of the Department of California and shall not engage in activities that would detract from his primary role within the organization. No Department funds, monies, credit, or other resources shall be used in support of any outside employment or activity. Department resources shall not be used in a manner that duplicates, supplements, or otherwise results in reimbursement for duties performed in any other DAV position, office, or capacity.***

(m) Shall furnish and keep in full -force a fidelity bond of not less than $100,000, and a like bond of not less than $10,000 for each additional Department Headquarters employee for the benefit of the Department. Each such bond shall be issued by a corporate surety licensed to do business in California and the premiums thereon shall be paid by the Department. The Department Finance Committee, as required, may increase the amounts of any one or more of such bonds.

(n) Shall notify the SEC, their alternates and the Adjutants of all Chapters and Districts within the Department as to the time, place, and purpose of the meetings of the SEC, and upon request mail to all above offices the minutes of that SEC meeting.

(o) May serve as Director of the Claims and Service Commission in addition to his other duties.

(p) ***Shall receive all resolutions, read, number, record and refer each one, in conjunction with the State Legislative Director, to its respective Convention committee.***

(q) ***Shall be an ex-officio member, without voting rights, of the Claims & Service Commission as set out in Article IV of these Bylaws.***

(r) Shall be an ex-officio member, without voting rights, of the standing Finance Committee as set out in Article VI of these Bylaws.

(s) ***May hire an Assistant Adjutant and such other positions as they deem necessary to conduct the affairs of their office with the approval of the Department Finance Committee. The Committee shall determine and approve all salaries,***

raises, and bonuses for DAV Department of California employees. The State Adjutant will establish and assign the duties of the employees in their office.

(t) ***Upon written request from the Finance Committee Chair, Vice Chair, State Commander, or any member of the Department Finance Committee acting in an official capacity, the Adjutant shall provide access to requested communications, records, financial documents, or meeting minutes within three (3) business days. All records shall be maintained and produced in compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations governing nonprofits organizations, financial reporting, and records retention.***

Section 3.10: Chiefs of Staff

The State Chief of Staff and the Deputy Chiefs of Staff shall be appointments at the discretion of the State Commander and shall assist in the organization and reorganization of Chapters. They shall supervise and aide Chapters, within their areas, to build membership and such other duties as the Commander may direct. The State Chief of Staff shall be responsible to the Commander.

Section 3.11: Other Officers

The duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms, the Officer-of-Day and Legislative Director shall be those prescribed in the National Ritual and as directed by the Presiding Officer.

Section 3.12: Vacancies

(a) In the event of the death, resignation or dismissal of any State Officer, either elected or appointed, other than the Commander, a Vice-Commander or a State Executive Committee-member, the Commander shall fill such vacancy, with the approval of the SEC, without extending the term of such office. Should any such Officer be suspended, the Commander may appoint a member to act in such office during such suspension.

(b) If the office of State Commander becomes vacant, the Senior Vice-Commander shall become the Commander, and the Junior Vice-Commander shall become the Senior Vice-Commander.

(c) If the office of Senior Vice-Commander becomes vacant the Junior Vice-Commander shall become the Senior Vice-Commander.

(d) If the office of Junior Vice-Commander becomes vacant it shall be filled by the SEC within thirty (30) days thereafter -and the person so elected to fill that office

shall have the same benefits, during such term, as if elected to that office at a Department Convention.

ARTICLE IV
CLAIMS AND SERVICE COMMISSION

Section 4.1: Creation

There is hereby created in the Disabled American Veterans-Department of California, the Claims and Service Commission with jurisdiction over all rehabilitation activities of the Department, subject to the supervision and control of the Department Convention and the SEC.

Section 4.2: Purposes and Objectives

The purposes and objectives of the Department Claims and Service Commission, shall at all times be to provide for and coordinate the rehabilitation and service -programs of/and within this Department or conducted by it; and by cooperation with the Department of Veterans Affairs, the California Department of Veterans Affairs and all other public and/or private agencies or bodies devoted to our cause, provide for and maintain a full and efficient claims and service organization in this Department; and to assist disabled veterans, their widows and orphans within and throughout the State of California. The Claims and Service Commission is hereby authorized to adopt rules, regulations and procedural practices necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

Section 4.3: Organizations

(a) The Claims and Service Commission shall be composed of six (6) members. Membership on the Commission shall be limited to such members of the Disabled American Veterans - Department of California who have distinguished themselves in public or private life, in business or in their profession and who are noted for their profession and who are noted for their wisdom, experience, impartiality and interest in the Claims and Service Program of the Department. The terms of office for each member shall be five (5) years. The State Adjutant, State Judge Advocate and the Chairman of the Finance Committee shall be ex-officio members of the Commission without voting rights. The Commission shall elect a Chairman at the beginning of each year.

(b) As each of the initial terms expire, the successor appointment shall be for a full (5) five-year period; so that no more than one (1) term shall expire in any (1) year. Each Commissioner shall serve until his successor is appointed.

(c) Vacancies on the Commission caused by death, resignation, disability, or any cause other than expiration of term, shall be filled by an appointment made by the majority of the remaining members, even if less than a quorum. A Commissioner so appointed shall serve for the remainder of their predecessor's term. If a Commissioner is absent from two consecutive meetings without sufficient cause, the State Commander shall declare the office vacant.

(d) Vacancies created by the expiration of a term of office shall be filled by nomination by the State Commander.

(e) Terms of office expire on -the second business day of the Annual Department Convention of the year, in which the term expires.

(f) Each nominee must be ratified by the Convention whereupon they shall be declared appointed.

(g) Any member may be recalled from their office by majority vote of any Convention.

(h) The Claims and Service Commission shall appoint a Director. The Director of Claims and Service Commission will administer, supervise and carry out the policies and procedures of the Claims and Service Commission. All service officers and the Director shall at all times be members in good standing in this organization.

(i) All Service Officers and the Director of Service shall have a service-connected rating according to the Department of Veterans Affairs, have no less than an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces and shall, at all times, be a member in good standing in the Disabled American Veterans - Department of California.

Section 4.4: Meetings and Records

(a) The Claims and Service Commission shall meet within a twenty-four (24) hour period prior to each mid-year meeting and pre-convention SEC meeting and/or at the upon written demand of at least three (3) members thereof.

(b) The Claims and Service Commission shall be the exclusive agent of the Department for the purpose of recommending the disbursing of funds for claims and service, and service activities of the Department. To do all other acts necessary or expedient for the administration of the Department Claims and Service program and the attainment of the purpose and objectives of that program.

(c) The Commission shall keep as permanent records, full and accurate minutes of all its meetings and its authorizations and directions. It shall furnish to the Department of California, full and complete copies of the minutes of all meetings. The Commission shall make full and complete reports of its activities to the mid-year and pre- convention SEC meetings and to the Annual Department Convention.

(d) The Claims and Service Commission shall serve without compensation, but they shall be paid round-trip transportation costs between their place of residence and such place of meetings, together with a per diem expense as the Finance Committee may determine as proper, for each called meeting they attend.

(e) No fare, mileage or per diem expense shall be paid to any Claims and Service Commission member for attendance at a meeting of the Commission, when they shall be receiving expenses for a meeting of any other Committee, or Commission of the Department or any Corporation, subsidiary or auxiliary to the Department held about the same time and place as the Claims and Service Commission meeting.

ARTICLE V
DEPARTMENT STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 5.1: Creation and Organization

The State Commander, with the approval of the SEC, shall appoint the following committees to serve between the Annual Department Conventions and they shall designate the Chairman of each:(1) Bylaws and Polices; (2) Legislation; (3) Employment, (4) Membership and (5) any other Committee as the State Commander, in their judgment, deems necessary for the best interest of the Department.

(a) Membership: The State Commander, with the approval of the SEC, shall appoint the following committees to serve between the Annual Department Conventions and they shall designate the Chairman of each: (1) Bylaws and Policies; (2) Legislation; (3) Employment and (4) Membership and (5) any other Committee as the State Commander, in their judgement, deems necessary for the best interest of the Department.

ARTICLE VI FINANCE COMMITTEE
Section 6.1: Creation and Organization

There shall be a Finance Committee of seven (7) members. Four (4) members shall be appointed by the State Commander with the approval of the SEC; the terms of which shall be for three (3) years. The State Commander, State Senior Vice-Commander, and State Junior Vice-Commander shall be ex-officio members of the Finance Committee. The State Judge Advocate, the Adjutant and the Chairman of the Claims and Service Commission shall be ex-officio members without voting rights. Any appointment to fill an unexpired term shall be for the duration of the original appointment. The Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Vice Chairman at the beginning of the year.

Section 6.2: Meetings

(a) The Department Finance Committee shall meet on a quarterly basis. Two (2) of the meetings shall be held within a twenty-four (24) hour period to each mid-year and pre-convention SEC Meeting, or upon call of three (3) members of the Finance Committee and/or the State Commander.

(b) The Finance Committee shall serve without compensation, but they shall be paid round-trip transportation costs between their place of residence and such place of meetings, together with a· per diem expense as the Finance Committee may determine as proper, for each called meeting they attend.

(c) No fare, mileage or per diem expense shall be paid to any Finance Committee member for attendance at a meeting of the Commission, when they shall be receiving expenses for a meeting of any other Committee, or Commission of the Department or any Corporation subsidiary or auxiliary to the Department held about the same time and place as the Finance Committee meeting.

Section 6.3: Quorum

A quorum shall consist of a majority.

Section 6.4: Powers and Duties

The Finance Committee:

(a) Shall be under the direct supervision of all the Department Finance Committee revenue and expenditures of the Department, as set forth in the DAV Department of California Finance Committee Rules and Regulations.

(b) Shall designate the depositories within California which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation to be used as depositories for all funds belonging to the Department. Charitable Trust Funds shall be kept in a separate account.

(c) Shall not approve any expenditure in excess of the amounts set up in the annual budget approved by the previous Annual Department Convention.

(d) Shall require all withdrawals to be made by check, accompanied by the proper voucher signed by the State Adjutant. All Department checks, except payroll checks, shall require the signature of the Adjutant and the Commander or Senior Vice-Commander. It shall have the authority to designate the budget item to which all expenses vouchers shall be charged.

(e) Shall inspect the financial accounts of the Department General Fund and Claims and Service Fund at least semi-annually within each fiscal year. These inspections shall be conducted concurrently with the regularly called meetings of the Finance Committee.

(f) ***Shall submit a budget of estimated receipts and expenditures of all Department funds for the coming year, together with a financial statement of March 31 submitted by the accounting firm retained by the Department, at each Convention. An annual audit of the books of this Corporation shall be made as of June 30, by a California Licensed Accountant. The Finance Committee shall designate a California Licensed accounting firm to perform the annual audit. The Finance Committee shall review the findings of the audit.***

(g) Upon recommendation of the Department Finance Committee, the SEC may reallocate the funds of the budget as determined by the preceding Annual Department Convention; but shall be without power to exceed the total thereof or to change the travel allowance of any Department Officer.

(h) ***Shall inspect all vouchers of the Department, which shall include receipts and itemized expenses, and shall present to the SEC a signed certification that they have examined all vouchers and that all expenditures were in conformity with the Convention and/or SEC action. Any expenditure not in conformity with Convention and/or SEC action shall be set forth in detail in such report. This report shall be submitted at each SEC meeting and the Annual Department Convention. Though they should be rare and limited given the nature of the position, all vouchers for the Adjutant and Operations Director should be approved by Finance Chairman and/or Commander, their facsimiles shall not be used to approve vouchers.***

(i) Shall be empowered to prescribe the rules and regulations by which any business, commercial enterprise or fund raising project will be conducted and/or operated by the Department of California or any chapter, group of chapters or auxiliary units, or group of auxiliary units, or committees of any of them, or any other entity using the name or symbols of the DAV, subject to the approval by the SEC, of said rules

and regulations. One percent (1%) of the gross of all fund-raising projects, except for Forget-Me-Not drives where a paid promoter is not engaged, luncheons, dinners and rummage sales and other fundraising projects as determined by Department Finance Committee as published in the Department Finance Committee Rules and Regulations, shall be remitted to the Department. All Charitable Trust Funds received from such sources shall be used expressly for Claims and Service work and other rehabilitation services.

(j) ***Shall determine all salary matters, pertaining to all Department employees, which shall be itemized in the proposed budget. For service personnel, it shall be based on the recommendation of the Department Claims and Service Commission and based on the recommendation of the State Adjutant for all other employees.***

(k) ***With the approval of the State Executive Committee, shall appoint and employ a member in good standing and well qualified to fill the position of State Adjutant when a vacancy may occur. The Department Finance Committee, with the approval of the SEC, shall set the salary of the State Adjutant, salary shall include, but is not limited to, merit increases, bonuses, other increases, and all other fringe benefits and/or terms and conditions of employment as offered to other employees of the Department, none of which shall be consider an employment contract. The Department Finance Committee shall have the authority to grant leave and must approve any leave for the State Adjutant before it can be taken.***

(I) ***The appointment and employment of the State Adjutant may be terminated at any time by the Department Finance Committee, provided, however, that written notice be given to the SEC. Approval by majority vote of the SEC, as outlined in Article II, Section 2.1(a) of these bylaws will be required to remove the State Adjutant from office.***

ARTICLE VII
PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT

Section 7.1: Headquarters

The principal place of business and office of the Adjutant of this Department shall be located in California.

ARTICLE VIII DISTRICTS

Section 8.1: District Areas

For the purpose of electing State Executive Committee-members and Alternates and other purposes enumerated in Section 8.2 and Section 8.3 of this Article the Department is hereby divided into the following Districts:

(a) First District: The First District shall be composed of Chapters 2, 23, 28, 66, 70, 78, and 95.

(b) Second District: The Second District shall be composed of Chapters 12, 17, 19, 46, 60, 68, and 92.

(c) Third District: The Third District shall be composed of Chapters 5, 13, 24, 55, 99, and 123.

(d) Fourth District: The Fourth District shall be composed of Chapters 1, 20, 37, 39, 45, 82, 85, and 91.

(e) Fifth District: The Fifth District shall be composed of Chapters 7, 11, 16, 25, 26, 31, 52, 74, and 77.

(f) Sixth District: The Sixth District shall be composed of Chapters 6, 15, 35, 59, 63, 93, 118, 154, and 158.

(g) Seventh District: The Seventh District shall be composed of Chapters 9, 21, 48, 83, 84, 106, 115, 117, and 125.

(h) The SEC, subject to ratification at the following Department Convention, shall be empowered to realign the boundaries of Districts or create new Districts. The number of Districts in the Department shall not exceed fourteen (14).

Section 8.2: Purpose and Powers

(a) The functions of Districts, in addition to those herein, shall be: (1) To provide an intermediary channel between the Chapters and the Department; and (2) The promotion of the general welfare and the discussion of problems confronting the Disabled American Veterans and the recommendations of Chapter members of solutions to these problems.

(b) Each District shall have not less than one (1) meeting during the membership year. Said meeting shall be held at the site of the State Convention, the day before the State Convention convenes. Any other District meeting will be decided by a majority vote at the annual meeting, or at call by the District State Executive Committee-member after written notification to each Chapter in said District not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the proposed meeting; or after a written request by a majority of the Chapters in the District to the State Executive Committee-member. They then must set a date not more than thirty (30) days after receipt of

the request and shall then give written notification to all Chapters in the District not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting.

Section 8.3: District Elections

(a) District annual elections shall be held at the required annual meeting, as set out in Section (2.1.b) of these Bylaws, prior to the Joint Opening of State Convention. The Chapters of each District, when in good standing, shall meet and elect a State Executive Committee-member and the Alternate State Executive Committee-member, who shall be members in good standing of a Chapter within the District which they represent, and continue their membership in good standing in a Chapter in that District during their two (2) year tenure of office; which shall be until their successors are elected. No person shall be eligible to be elected unless personally present at the time of the election. In lieu thereof, a letter of acceptance, if elected, and a reasonable excuse for not attending the meeting must be presented in writing to the State Executive Committee-member or the Alternate State Executive Committee-member in the absence of the State Executive Committee-member. There shall be no other District Officers. The State Executive Committee-member, or their Alternate if they are not present, shall be the Chairperson and Spokesperson for the District and shall preside at all District meetings; they may appoint committees to assist them; they shall promote the general welfare of the organization within the District; they shall report to the Department all problems encountered within their District; they shall report any successes within the District to Department. All State Executive Committee-members and their Alternates shall be installed at the State Convention where they are elected.

(b) In all District matters to be voted upon, each Chapter in good standing represented, shall be entitled to one (1) vote, regardless of how many Chapter members are present at the meeting. In the event of a tie, and the tie cannot be broken, the rule of one (1) vote per Chapter in good standing within the District will be set aside and each Delegate in good standing present shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

(c) ***The State Executive Committee-member shall be authorized, at Department expense and reimbursed through an approved voucher, to visit annually each Chapter in their District for the purpose of maintaining communication between the Chapters and the Department and assisting Chapters with any issues that may arise. Reimbursement shall also apply for attendance at the Mid-Winter Conference and the State Convention, as well as for any additional travel or duties authorized by the State Commander or Adjutant related to ongoing Chapter business.***

ARTICLE IX CHAPTERS

Section 9.1: Creation and Organization

(a) Local units shall be termed "Chapters."

(b) No petitioning group may operate within the Department until it shall have received a National Charter. A petitioning group desiring a Charter may apply through its respective State Executive Committee-member to the State Adjutant in writing.

(c) No Chapter shall be named for any living person.

(d) New Chapters requesting a charter must conform to the National Bylaws, Article 6.2 - Chapters.

(e) Auxiliaries: Each Chapter may recognize the Disabled American Veterans-Auxiliary.

Section 9.2: Powers and Duties

(a) Elections: Each Chapter must hold its regular annual election and installation of Officers not more than ninety (90) days nor less than thirty (30) days before the Annual Department Convention. Unless otherwise provided in the Chapter Constitution and/or Bylaws, in the event of death, resignation, or removal of the Chapter Commander, the Sr. Vice-Commander shall become the Commander, and the Jr. Vice-Commander shall become the Sr. Vice-Commander. All other offices will remain the same, and the only office for which a special election will be held will be the office of Jr. Vice-Commander.

(b) Each Chapter shall submit an Officer Report to their Department Headquarters and National Organization within ten (10) days after the installation of any. newly elected or appointed officers. The Department Officer Report shall be completed on the form provided by National Headquarters and shall be certified by the Chapter Commander and Adjutant. Any change in elected or appointed officers requires the submission of a new Department Officer Report to the Department and National Organization within ten (10) days after installation. Failure to file complete reports as required herein is cause to suspend or revoke the Chapter.

(c) Constitution and/or Bylaws: Each Chapter must adopt such Constitution and/or Bylaws for the conduct of its business as it may deem advisable, not inconsistent with these Department Bylaws or the National Constitution and Bylaws. No Constitution and/or Bylaws, nor amendments thereto, shall be effective until approved by the State Judge Advocate and the National Judge Advocate.

(d) Incorporation: Each Chapter may incorporate under the laws of California as a non-profit corporation. Its proposed articles of incorporation and Constitution and Bylaws, and all amendments thereto, shall be approved by the State Judge Advocate before the adoption.

Section 9.3: Fundraising

(a) No Chapter, group of Chapters, or Auxiliary unit, group of Auxiliary units, or committees of any of them, directly or indirectly shall conduct any business, commercial enterprise, or fundraising project, over $200 without first obtaining through Department Headquarters, the consent of the Department Finance Committee, in writing. These provisions shall not apply to one Forget-Me-Not drive conducted by the Chapter within the Chapter territory, provided no professional promoter is employed and each annual Forget-Me-Not Drive shall not exceed seven consecutive days, without the consent of Department Headquarters as authorized by Article 15, Section 15.3 of the National Bylaws. However, should a professional promoter be affiliated in any way in such drive, than written consent must first be obtained from the Department Finance Committee.

(b) No Chapter, group of Chapters, District, State Department, nor Committee of any of them shall enter any fundraising project under any identification or title other than the DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS (name of unit or units).

(c) Any Chapter, group of Chapters, or Auxiliary unit, group of Auxiliary units, or committee of any of them, which conduct and/or operate any business, commercial enterprise, or fundraising project without prior written approval of the Department Finance committee, or which conducts and/or operates any business, commercial enterprise, or fundraising project not in compliance with the rules and regulations as prescribed by the Department Finance Committee shall therefore subject its charter or charters to revocation.

(d) Any business, commercial enterprise, or fundraising project must be conducted and/or operated in conformity with the laws and regulations of Federal, State, County or Municipal authorities; and in particular, those laws and regulations governing nonprofit Corporations.

(e) If a professional promoter or third party is to be authorized to conduct or supervise any fundraising venture or in any event, if the Department Finance Committee finds a reasonable need therefore, such committee, as a condition to granting approval, may require that liability insurance, naming the Chapter and the Department as additional insured, be issued by an insurer approved by the

Committee in such minimum amounts, on a case by case basis, as the Committee determines to be reasonably adequate, without cost to the Department.

(f) No chapter or its auxiliary shall conduct a fundraising drive in the territory of any other chapter unless the approval of the chapter concerned is first received, except as otherwise expressly provided in this Section.

(g) If a Chapter, or multiple Chapters, desire to hold any fundraising drive or fundraising activity in the territory of more than one chapter, before asking for the required approval-shall give written notice of its intention to ask such approval, with reasonably detailed information about the proposed drive or activity, to all chapters within such territory not less than two weeks before seeking approval, and all such chapters shall have the right to protest, promptly to the State Department.

(h) Any person who violates or takes an active part in violation of the foregoing provisions shall be subject to disciplinary action.

(i) The Department Finance Committee shall not approve an application for a fundraising project unless or until a current financial report, as required by the National Constitution and Bylaws, is on file with the State Adjutant.

Section 9.4: Quorum

(a) Unless otherwise stated in the Chapter's Constitution and/or Bylaws, a quorum at a Chapter meeting shall consist of no less than five (5) members.

(b) Members of the chapter wishing to cast a vote during elections must be in person and there shall be no voting by proxy or absentee ballot. All other general membership meetings of a chapter may allow for virtual participation of its members, to include voting, so long as the active membership of anyone participating virtually is validated at the beginning of each meeting and documented in the chapter minutes. Chapters that wish to allow for virtual participation of members would be responsible for facilitating such participation.

Section 9.5: Removal and Recall of Officers

(a) The Chapter Commander may remove any appointed Chapter Officer from office with or without cause, with the approval of a majority of the members present by secret ballot.

(b) Any five (5) or more members of a Chapter may join in and sign a written petition for the recall of any appointed or elected Chapter officer, which shall state the reasons therefore. The petition should be read at the meeting at which it is presented, but no further action shall be taken thereon until the next meeting. At

least seven (7) days before, a copy of the petition shall be given to the officer concerned, together with a written notice stating the time, date and location of the next meeting, and that at such time the petition will be debated and voted upon. After discussion at the meeting, a vote by secret ballot shall be taken that such officer be recalled from office. If adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present, the vacancy will be created. If an appointed office, it shall be filled by the Commander, with the approval of the Chapter, and if an elected office, it shall be filled by nomination and election at the same meeting.

Section 9.6: Merger of Two or More Existing Chapters

(a) Upon receipt of a letter of intention to merge from the Adjutants of the Chapters concerned, the State Commander may approve their merger with the concurrence of the State Executive Committee.

(b) If one of the Chapters in a non-functioning Chapter and cannot hold a legal meeting, the State Commander may require the State Adjutant or the Chapter Adjutant to poll the membership of the Chapter as to their wishes regarding the merger.

(c) Upon receipt of a favorable report from the membership concerned, the State Commander shall then affect the transfer of the membership and the property of the non-functioning Chapter into the Chapter that is the survivor of the merger.

(d) If no favorable report is received by Department Headquarters, and the Chapter is non-functioning, then Article 6 Section 6.4, of the National Constitution and Bylaws shall govern the necessary action of the State Commander.

ARTICLE X MEMBERSHIP

Section 10.1: Application for Membership

Only those persons who are eligible for membership as provided in the National Constitution and Bylaws shall be eligible for membership in any Chapter of this Department.

Section 10.2: Transfer of Membership

(a) Members of one chapter may secure a transfer of membership to another chapter, with the approval of the receiving chapter.

(b) No transfer shall take effect as to dues credit or voting strength until the beginning of the membership year following completion of the transfer. All rights of

membership in a chapter shall become effective upon the approval of the transfer by the receiving chapter.

Section 10.3: Resignation

No resignation or transfer shall be effective for any purpose if made or offered after written charges have been filed against a member and are undetermined.

Section 10.4: Property Rights

No member (other than a Chapter) shall have any right or interest in the property of this Corporation. No membership shall be assignable or transferable, except as provided in these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS

Section 11.1: Corporate Designations

The Board of Directors of this Corporation shall be known as the State Executive Committee.

Section 11.2: Lawsuits

These Bylaws, and all amendments herein shall be binding upon all members of this Corporation, including all Chapters within the Department, whether incorporated or not.

Section 11.3: Definitions

(a) Whenever the word "National" is used herein, it shall refer to the Disabled American Veterans, a corporation created by an Act of Congress with its principal place of business in Erlanger, Kentucky.

(b) Whenever the word "Department" is used, it shall, unless the context clearly otherwise denotes, refer to this Corporation.

(c) The office of State Commander is comparable to that of a President of a California non-profit corporation; a Vice-Commander, Vice President; the Adjutant, Executive Director; and the SEC (sometimes referred to by the initials S.E.C.) is comparable to such Corporation's Board of Directors.

Section 11.4: DAV Emblems

No person is authorized to wear, use or display any recognized insignia of the DAV or the DAV Auxiliary in the solicitation of any money or thing of value, or to sell, give away or

offer to give away, any flag, flower or other item of personal property unless previously authorized in writing by this Department, except in direct relation to one Forget-Me-Not Drive conducted by a DAV Chapter in strict accordance with Section 9.3 "Fundraising" of these Bylaws.

Section 11.5: DAV Caps

All elected Officers are the only members of the Department permitted to wear white caps during their term in office. Past State Commanders in good standing are permitted to wear blue and gold caps.

Section 11.6: Meeting Accessibility

No official meeting of the Disabled American Veterans shall be held in a building or meeting place with an entrance which is inaccessible to members in wheelchairs when such place is locally available and its use economically reasonable.

Section 11.7: Employees and Officers

No State Officer, Department Service Officer or paid employee of the Department of California, shall receive gratuities, tips, salaries, commissions or any form of remuneration from any contractor or promoter doing business with the Department of California.

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

Section 12.1: How Made

These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Department Convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote; provided that, except with the consent of the Annual Department Convention by a three- fourths (3/4) vote, all amendments must be read to the convention at least twelve (12) hours prior to their adoption.

Section 12.2: When Effective

All amendments to these Bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption, unless otherwise provided, and upon being approved by the State Judge Advocate and by the National Judge Advocate.

Section 12.3: Provisions Conflicting with National

These Bylaws shall be deemed to have been amended without any formal or other act and the Officers of this Corporation are authorized to cause the same to be amended to conform to any amendment of the National Constitution and Bylaws when in conflict therewith.

As Amended by the California Annual Department

Convention, Held in Orange; California on May 20th-23rd, 2026

Attest: Signature
Enrique Ramos, State Adjutant

Date: May 23, 2026

Signature:
Joseph Moseley, PSC
State Judge Advocate
Date: May 23, 2026

****

Approved:
Michael Dobmeier, PNC
National Judge Advocate

Signature:

Date:

RULES OF THE CONVENTION
AND
CONVENTION COMMITTEES

RULE 1. Roberts Rules of Order, revised, will govern except as hereinafter specifically stated.

RULE 2. To be recognized, a delegate to the Convention must (1) stand, (2) address the chair as "Commander," (3) state his or her name and the chapter, or their title, and (4) proceed only after recognition by the Chair.

RULE 3. Debate shall be limited to five (5) minutes for each speaker, except by two-thirds (2/3) consent of the body.

RULE 4. Not more than two (2) representatives from any one (1) delegation shall be permitted to discuss any one (1) subject, except by two-thirds (2/3) consent of the body.

RULE 5. Recognition shall be granted qnly once to any one (1) speaker on any one (1) subject. A rebuttal of not more than three (3) minutes may be permitted. Additional recognition may be granted by two-thirds (2/3) consent of the body.

RULE 6. No person who has talked for or against any motion, resolution or report on the Convention floor shall be permitted to make a motion to table it. A motion to table is not debatable and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the body. A tabled motion may be taken from the table, for reconsideration, by a majority vote of the body.

RULE 7. All resolutions originating in a Convention Committee must be submitted to the Convention office of the State Adjutant in proper resolution form
typed and printed, or electronically and must be signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the Originating Committee.

RULE 8. The State Adjutant shall deliver alt properly prepared· resolutions to the appropriate Convention Committee. Resolutions not considered shall be returned to the State Adjutant for further reference.

RULE 9. No resolution can be discussed by the Convention, except by unanimous consent, until the same has been reported in by a Convention Committee. Resolutions referred to, but not favorably reported in by such- Committee are in order and may • be called • up for consideration by proponents at the moment of discharge of such Committee.

RULE 10. Convention Committees may originate such resolutions as they desire to sponsor, which pertain to the subject with which they are charged. However, no resolution shall be accepted for consideration after 10:00 A.M. of the third day of the Convention, except by unanimous consent of the Convention.

RULE 11. Each Chapter delegation shall elect a Chairman, who shall announce the vote of the delegation. When the poll of any delegation is demanded by a delegate thereof, entitled to vote, the Chairman shall poll the vote of such delegation without debate or discussion.

RULE 12. In viva voce voting on any subject before the Convention, no person shall participate except full accredited delegates and alternates acting as delegates, who have registered and paid the registration fee. Visitors other than the voting members of the convention shall be segregated.

RULE 13. The unit rule of voting shall not be permitted.

RULE 14. Delegates and alternates of a Chapter which are indebted to Department Headquarters in any amount, except supplies for current or future Forget-Me-Not Sales, or delegates and alternates of the Chapter which have not complied with Article 9, Section 9.3 of the National Constitution and Bylaws, and Rule 1, of the Department Finance Committee Rules and Regulations shall not be seated and cannot vote in the Convention until such indebtedness has been paid and/or establish compliance with the aforementioned Bylaws, Rules and Regulations.

RULE 15. Voting shall be given by viva voce, except when a roll call is demanded by the State Commander or his designated replacement or by at least three (3) delegation units, except in the case of election of State Officers, and except in the selection of the next Convention City: provided, however, that the election of a State Officer or the next selection of the next Convention City may be made by a viva voce where there is no contest. All roll calls shall be numerically by Chapters.

RULE 16. Nominations for State Officers shall be from the floor on roll call by Chapters.

RULE 17. Only one (1) nominating speech and-one
(1) seconding speech shall be permitted for each candidate for an elected office.

RULE 18. In electing State Officers, the balloting shall continue until one (1) candidate shall have received a majority of the votes cast by the Convention. In the event more than two (2) candidates are nominated for one (1) office, the candidate receiving the least number of votes on each ballot shall be automatically eliminated.

RULE 19. Discussion of personal grievances, local conditions, or claims concerning one (1) individual only, with respect to his personal interest, shall not be in order before the Convention but may be discussed before the Committees of the Convention with the approval of the respective Committees.

RULE 20. In conformity with the Department Bylaws, the State Officers shall serve as the Officers of the Convention. The State Adjutant shall serve as the Adjutant and Secretary of the Convention.

RULE 21. The State Sergeant-at-Arms shall be the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Convention. He shall be assisted by the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, appointed by the State Commander.

RULE 22. There shall be no voting by proxy, except as provided by Article I, Section 1.7.

RULE 23. No person who has talked for or against any motion, resolution, or report on the Convention floor shall be permitted to make a motion to table same. A motion to table is not debatable and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote. A tabled motion may be taken from the table, for reconsideration, by a majority vote.

RULE 24. No person shall be entitled to vote or act as a delegate or alternate unless he is a member of the Disabled American Veterans, Department of California, in good standing.

RULE 25. The nomination, election and installation of the State Officers designated in Article I, Section 1.9 of these Bylaws shall be the last order of business of the last day of the Convention.

THE CONVENTION COMMITTEES SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

RULE 26. The following Committees are hereby provided as the Standing Committees of the Convention. They shall meet at the call of the convention, the State Commander, or the Chairman of the Committee, provided, however, such Committees shall not meet during the prescribed hours of the General Sessions except by affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3)

of Convention Delegates present and voting. Each Committee Secretary shall notify all Committee members, and the State Adjutant as to time and place of each meeting. Each Committee Chairman shall report the conclusion of his Committee in writing in whole or in part, to the Convention when called for by the State Commander; the report to be approved by a majority of the Committee. A Department Committee Advisor shall be assigned by the State Commander to each Committee because of his knowledge of the subject under consideration; and shall be subject to the call of the Committee for advice or council, without the privilege of voting, unless such appointed advisor is a Delegate to such Committee. Only registered Delegates will be allowed to participate in Committee discussions.

(a) Credentials Committee: This Committee shall in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws and the Convention Rules determine the eligibility of all persons seated and voting in the State Convention and shall specifically notify the Convention and the delegates as to the number of votes to which each delegation is entitled.

(b) Committee on General Resolutions and Membership: This Committee shall consider all matters which are not covered by the resolutions referable to other committees of this Convention, and shall formulate and give expressions of thanks, appreciation, and condolences in resolution form. It shall consider all matters referred to it which pertain to citizenship, Americanism, national defense or the security of the United States. It shall consider all matters concerning membership activities and eligibility requirements and all other matters in which public and private agencies charged with the improvement of disabled veterans and their dependents are concerned.

(c) Committee on Legislation and Veterans Rights: This Committee shall consider all resolutions proposing or requiring legislation on compensations, pension, legal and guardianship matters and appeals, as well as on all matters of policy and procedure with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, including problems in National Service Life Insurance. It shall consider all resolutions not requiring legislation on compensation, pensions, legal and guardianship matters and appeals.

(d) Committee on Constitution and Bylaws: This Committee shall give consideration to those resolutions which pertain to proposed amendments to the Department Constitution and the Department Bylaws. It shall give advice to Department Headquarters on the Official Ritual and also consider all matters relative to DAV Auxiliaries and other subordinated units of the Disabled American Veterans insofar as they may affect proposed amendments to the Department Constitution and Bylaws. All proposed amendments shall be read to the Convention no later than the

second day prior to the scheduled day of adjournment of the Convention, and voting thereon shall begin the following business day, except proposals referred to that committee by other convention committees too late for reading on that date, or resolutions origination in the committee; such amendments shall be read and voted upon on the day of adjournment.

(e) Committee on Women Veterans: This Committee shall assess the needs of women Veterans, with respect to VA programs such as compensation, rehabilitation, outreach, healthcare, and identify gaps in other federal services, highlighting recommendations for improvements in laws, regulations, policies and programs to improve the lives of women veterans.

(f) Committee on Employment: This Committee shall consider. all matters concerning all forms of employment of disabled veterans as well as preference rights in examination, appointments, retention, promotions or employment or reemployment rights in Federal Civil Service and in state, county and city governments. This Committee will also consider matters relating to vocational rehabilitation, education and training for veterans and their eligible dependents.

(g) Committee on Hospital and Voluntary Services: This Committee shall consider questions concerning the standards of medical care delivery by VA hospitals and outpatient clinics, and all matters pertaining to the DAV voluntary service programs.

RULE 27. Department Convention Committees shall consist of not more than one (1) registered Delegate from each Chapter.

Rule 28. Accredited delegates or alternates acting as delegates, National officers; and 'State Officers may appear before any Convention Committee to argue for or against any resolution being given consideration, providing they contact the Chairman or Secretary, and make an appointment for such appearance. All State Officers and employees, and members of Permanent Convention Committees are subject to call during Committee sessions.

RULE 29

(a) Committee Reports: Convention committee reports covering favorably considered resolutions must be submitted by reference to their number, and a brief statement as to their content.

(b) The final report of the Credentials Committee, and the election of Department officers as designated in shall be in that order, the last order of business, on the last day of the Convention.

RULE 29. Convention requirements shall be made by the SEC at the mid-year meeting.

RULE 30. In the event the animal that is accompanying a member to any DAV meeting or sanction and becomes disruptive (example: barking, charging, growling) the Sergeant-At-Arms is empowered by the Rules of the Convention to request the individual and the animal to leave the DAV meeting, sanction and or DAV activity.

Adopted by the SEC on **May 21, 2026**
Date

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: 9.9.2026
DAV National Judge Advocate