KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO
AMERICA'S VETERANS

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July 20, 2026

Mr. Michael A. Martin, Adjutant
Department of New York
Disabled American Veterans
162 Atlantic Ave.
Lynbrook, NY 11563

EIN: 11-2248726

Dear Adjutant Martin:

The Constitution and Bylaws for the Department of New York 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

SCOTT - MICHAEL
SCANNED 7/24/26 + FILE

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

As Amended by the Convention Delegates on June 16, 2026

PREAMBLE

For God and Nation, and for our Commonwealth, we former members of the armed forces of the United States having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity and supremacy of our country, holding in remembrance the sacrifices in common made, and drawn together by strong bonds of respect and mutual suffering, solemnly and firmly associate ourselves together in creating the Disabled American Veterans, the principles and purposes of which shall be supreme allegiance to the United States of America and fidelity to its Constitution and Laws; to hold aloft the torch of true patriotism; to strive for a better understanding between nations so that peace and good will may prevail; to cherish and preserve the memories of our military association; and to aid and assist worthy wartime disabled veterans, their widows, their orphans and their dependents.

ARTICLE 1 – AUTHORITY

Section 1.

Under authority of the National Constitution and Bylaws of the Disabled American veterans (DAV), Incorporated and under authority of the National Charter, there is hereby established the DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK, INC. (DAV-NY).

ARTICLE 2 – PURPOSE

To uphold and maintain the Constitution and the laws of the United States and the State of New York, to realize the true American ideals 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 United States Department of Veteran Affairs and all other public and private agencies devoted to the cause of improving and advancing the condition, health and interest of all disabled veterans; to stimulate a feeling of mutual devotion, helpfulness and comradeship among all disabled veterans; to serve our comrades, our communities and our country; and to encourage in all people that spirit of understanding, which will guard against future wars.

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The DAV, Department of New York, will consist of all Chapters of such Department that have been chartered by the National Executive Committee.

Section 2. Qualifications for membership will be in accordance with the National Constitution and Bylaws of the DAV.

Section 3. The territory in which the Department shall operate shall be divided into up to fifteen (15) Department Districts. The Department Adjutant shall assign all newly Chartered Chapters as well as reassign current chapters within the department to various districts at his discretion in conjunction with the Department Executive Director, and Department Commander on area and membership. All changes must be approved by a majority vote of the Department Executive Committee.

First District – Chapters 145, 190

Second District – Chapters 28, 92, 154

Third District – Chapters 34, 118

Fourth District – Chapters 16, 144, 156, 212

Fifth District – Chapters 23, 126

Sixth District – Chapters 38, 88, 158, 179, 171, 182

Seventh District – Chapters 30, 82, 60, 200

Eighth District – Chapters 13, 15, 120

Ninth District – Chapter 1, 135, 142, 177, 203

No Department District shall exercise the powers of a governing body or as such conduct any fundraising project.

Anything to the contrary, notwithstanding, County Councils shall be permitted to be organized pursuant to the National Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 4. Financial Records: Each Chapter shall keep a complete financial record of all monies received, expended and remitted; all monies must be deposited in the name of said Chapter, and the Chapter shall have an accounting made of the same annually, a report shall be submitted to the State organization. Also file with the National Organization, if required. All the foregoing records shall be maintained by each Chapter for at least seven (7) years.

Section 5. Records of Proceedings: Each Chapter shall keep records of its proceedings and meetings, which shall be open for inspection to the Department Commander, the Department Executive Committee, or their designees. Minutes of all Chapter meetings and all chapter Executive Committee meetings shall be kept for a period of at least seven (7) years.

Section 6. Fund-Raising: Where no commissions are to be paid to outside fundraisers, and solicitation of funds shall be only by personal contract of members, chapters, or friends of members, no prior approval shall be required for a fund-raising project where the gross receipts are anticipated to be less than five thousand dollars ($5,000.00). Each chapter is required to give Department Headquarters a thirty (30) day advance notice before any such fundraising project will commence.

Section 7. Revocation and Suspension: The revocation or suspension of charters of local Chapters, County Councils or affiliated entities shall be governed by the National By-Laws, Article 6, Section 6.4.

Section 8. Change of Name: No Chapter or other unit under the jurisdiction of the Department of New York shall change its Nationally charted name without the prior approval of the Department Executive Committee (DEC) and the National Executive Committee.

Section 9. Conformity: To the extent to which the provisions of this Constitution and By-Laws are or may at any time become inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws and lawful mandates, decisions and regulations of the National Organization, as now in force or as hereafter amended or adopted, this instrument shall be deemed amended so as to conform thereto.

Section 10. Disciplinary Actions: All disciplinary actions will be handled in accordance with Article 16 of the National Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 11. Gender: The masculine gender, whenever used in this Department Constitution, and By-Laws, Regulations of the Department Executive Committee, or the official DAV Ritual, shall be interpreted as gender free.

Section 12. Contracts for Fundraising, or for the Sale or Lease of Property, Real or Personal and Employment Contracts. All such contracts are subject to the prior approval of the Department Executive Committee (DEC) and should advance the mission of the Disabled American Veterans.

Section 13. Income from Fundraising: Forget-Me-Nots. Income shall be used solely for services to disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors and for no other purposes. Other fundraising shall be used to support programs sponsored by Disabled American Veterans, as long as such programs and activities provide a direct and substantial benefit to disabled veterans, their dependents and survivors.

Section 14. Other Associations: Absent the written approval of the National Adjutant, no subordinate unit or Chapter may take or permit any action that suggests that the subordinate unit is endorsed (associated) with any non-DAV organization. Nor grant or award any DAV funds without the National Adjutant's written approval.

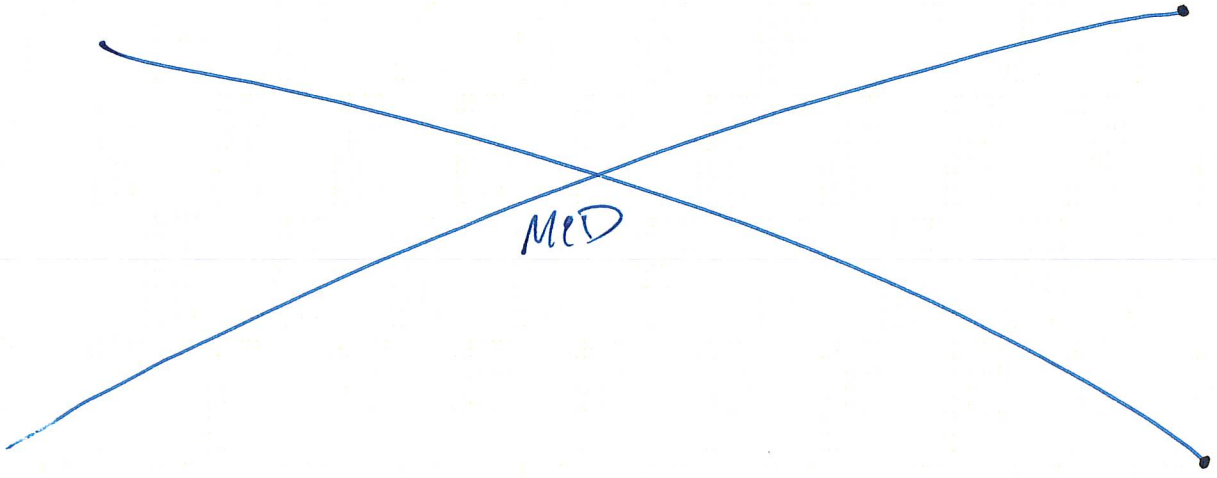
Section 15. Protection of Good Faith Complaints: The Department is committed to legal compliance and exemplary integrity in its financial management and corporate governance. The Department encourages all members to inform the Department Headquarters about suspicious, unlawful or improper behavior, including but not limited to, any of the following: (1) theft or improper use of assets, (2) materially misleading financial reporting, (3) violation of DAV's conflict-of-interest policy or other policies or procedures relating to corporate governance, (4) improper destruction of records.

It is important that the Department Adjutant be informed of any deviations from standards of financial management of corporate governance. In such cases, a DAV member or officer may become aware or suspect a problem. We request a prompt complaint in writing from any member who has reasonable suspicion about any illegal, unethical or improper conduct involving the finances or governance of the DAV. Such good-faith reports can be made without fear of retaliation. Officers and members making such reports will suffer no adverse actions.

Given the potential seriousness of these matters and the effect of a careless accusation, the department expects all officers and members to use this procedure in a thoughtful and responsible way. Compliances of suspected improprieties in financial management or corporate governance will be made in writing to the Department Adjutant or the Department commander addressed to department headquarters, providing contact information and the complaint is signed by the complainant.

The complaint should be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY" and delivered in person or by mail. All complaints will be handled on a confidential basis to the highest degree possible. Anonymous complaints will be accepted, although for obvious reasons it may hinder any follow-up or possible investigation.

16. Chapter Constitution and By-Laws: All Department Chapters will submit a new Chapter Constitution and By-Laws every 10 years.



ARTICLE I - ORGANIZATION

The governing bodies of the Department will be the Department Convention, the Department Executive Committee and the Chapters.

ARTICLE II - ALLEGIANCE

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 will be distributed as provided in the National Bylaws. The Charter of this Department, issued by the National Organization, is its authority to function and will be displayed at all regular meetings.

ARTICLE III – (Not Used)

ARTICLE IV – DEPARTMENT CONVENTIONS

Section 1. Day, Time and Place:
"A Department Convention" shall be held during the month of June, annually, for a period up to five (5) days, unless prohibited by a local, State, regional or National Emergency. The date, time and place where the Department Convention shall be held shall be determined by the Department Executive Committee, upon recommendations made by the department convention committee and approved by the Department Commander and Department Adjutant. For good cause and upon reasonable explanation, the Department Adjutant, acting in his capacity as the Secretary to the Department Convention, may select a suitable alternative site for the Department convention which would be better benefit to the membership of this Department.

Section 2. Election of Officers:
The Department Convention shall elect a Department Commander, a Department Senior Vice-Commander, up to four Department Junior Vice-Commanders, Department Treasurer, Department Judge Advocate and Department Chaplain.

Section 3. Directors and Advisors:

The three (3) Junior Past Department Commander's shall automatically be elected at the Department Convention to serve on any Disabled American Veterans Department of New York entity as Directors. The most immediate Past Department Commander shall serve as the President of the Board of Directors. The Department Adjutant and Department Treasurer shall be elected as directors and shall serve as Secretary and Treasurer respectively for the Board. The Department Senior Vice-Commander shall be elected as Director and shall serve as Vice President of the Board. The Department Commander and Judge Advocate shall be appointed as advisors to the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Delegates:

At the Department Convention, each Chapter shall be entitled to be represented in such Department Convention by one Delegate and one Alternate for the Chapter and one Delegate and one Alternate for each 50 members or major fraction thereof, whose current dues have been received by the National Organization at least 15 days prior to the Department Convention. Alternates representing Delegates at the Department Convention shall not be given floor privileges except where the Delegates whom they represent are not present. Said Alternates shall be given the same privileges as a Delegate and be entitled to vote in the absence of the duly elected Delegate. Alternates shall be seated by a majority vote of the Chapter delegation present.

Section 5. Voting:

There shall be no form of unit rule voting or voting by proxy.

The number of votes which any Chapter shall be entitled to cast shall be equal to the number of Delegates to which the Chapter is entitled.

In the event that any delegation is entitled to cast more votes than the number of Delegates present, the votes of those absent shall be cast in the same proportion to the Delegates present; and this to allow for fractional votes where such a situation may arise.

Section 6. Succession:

No Department Commander who has served as such for more than three (3) full months shall be permitted to succeed himself, except in time of a local, state, National or Regional emergency.

Section 7. Convention Committee:

The Department Commander shall have full power to appoint the Department Convention Committee. Committees are: Credentials, Registration, Constitution and By-Laws, Resolutions and such other committees as may be deemed necessary.

Section 8. An Enactment:
An enactment is defined to be a proposition which, if adopted, will constitute a new law, either permanent or temporary for the governing of this Department. A resolution shall consist of a formal expression by the Department Convention of its wishes, opinions, or sentiments other than permanent or specific laws.

Section 9. Effective Time:
An enactment shall take effect upon its passage unless otherwise provided therein. Enactments upon taking effect shall become binding upon all officers and members affected thereby, who shall be conclusively presumed to have had notice of same and shall not be allowed to plead ignorance thereof as an excuse for failing to comply with their requirements.

Section 10. Attestation:
The original copies of the enactments and resolutions shall be properly attested to by the Department Adjutant.

Section 11. Installation:
The installation of the newly elected officers must take place prior to the adjournment of the Department Convention at which they were elected or appointed.

Section 12. Department Convention Minutes:
The minutes of all Department Convention Proceedings shall be transcribed in the form of written minutes, audio transcription, video transcription, or any other reliable digital transcription method, all of which shall be recognized as valid official records when preserved in accordance with Department record-keeping requirements. They will be preserved in their permanent form at Department Headquarters and shall be made available for review and examination by any member in good standing with the Department of New York.

Section 13. Legislation:
The supreme legislative powers of this organization shall be vested in the State Convention which shall be composed of Department Elected Officers, Chapter Delegates and Past Department Commanders.

Section 14. Rules of Order:
All matters of the procedure not otherwise provided for by these By-Laws or in the Rules of the Convention shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

ARTICLE V – DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Section 1. Department Commander:
The executive powers of this department shall be vested in the Department Commander. The newly elected Department Commander shall preside at the Department Convention, at all meetings of the Department Executive Committee, and shall perform all such other duties as may reasonably be assumed to be incident to this office.

The newly elected Department Commander shall appoint a Department Adjutant, Department Executive Director and Department Inspector General, and may appoint a Historian, and a Sergeant-at-Arms. The newly appointed individuals must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Department Executive Committee held at the meeting following the end of the Department Convention.

The Department Commander shall also appoint a Chief of Staff for each of the districts in the Department of New York within a reasonable time after the adjournment of the Department Convention at which he or she was elected. The Department Commander may appoint committees upon such subjects as may be necessary or advisable.

Section 2. Department Officers:
The Department Senior Vice-Commander and the Department Junior Vice-Commanders, in the order named in the current Department Directory, shall, in the absence of or at the request of the Department Commander be called upon to represent the Department. The Department Commander may also designate other Department Officers to perform some of the duties of his office, except for the signing or countersigning of checks or approval of vouchers.

Section 3. Department Treasurer:
The Department Treasurer shall deposit, transfer and/or disburse funds, subject to the provisions contained in Article VII, Section 6, of this Constitution.

Section 4. Department Judge Advocate:
The Department Judge Advocate shall be the legal and parliamentary advisor and counselor to the Department Commander, the Department Convention and the Department Executive Committee.

Section 5. Department Chaplain:
The Department Chaplain shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the official ritual of the National Organization.

Section 6. Department Adjutant:

The Department Adjutant shall be the Secretary of the Department Organization and shall be Secretary to the Department Convention, Department Executive Committee and Department Finance Committee. He or she shall have a voice at all but shall have no vote thereat. He or she shall supervise and direct all activities of the Department organization.

The Department Adjutant shall be subject to, shall comply with all the instructions, decisions, directions, resolutions, mandates and orders of the Department Convention, Department Executive Committee and Department Finance Committee and Department Commander.

In addition to the other duties and powers set forth in these By-Laws, the Department Adjutant shall be the Senior Executive Officer working under the supervision and direction of the Department Commander. Shall manage all day-to-day daily activities of the Department Headquarters, along with the cooperation of the Department Commander and Department Executive Director located in the Town of Lynbrook, Nassau County, New York.

In the event of a temporary incapacitation of the Department Adjutant, the Department Executive Director shall immediately temporarily assume the duties of the Department Adjutant as the Acting Department Adjutant until such time as the Department Adjutant can resume his or her duties or for a period of up to 6 months after which a determination shall be made by the Department Commander as to whether the Department Adjutant is permanently incapacitated.

In the event of a permanent incapacitation, death or resignation or removal from office of the Department Adjutant, the Department Executive Director shall immediately temporarily assume the duties of the Department Adjutant as the Acting Department Adjutant until a new Department Adjutant is appointed by the Department Commander subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee. The appointment of a new Department Adjutant shall be done within 30 days of the qualifying event.

The Department Adjutant, shall review annually all appointed staff positions in the Department, Department Committees, Chairs, and Department Committee Member, using the recommendations of the various Department Chapters and other members of the Department, and appoint those Department members to any and all positions deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the Department, make recommendations to the Department Commander for consideration and changes. He or she may at any time, with the consent of the Department Commander, adjust as needed these various positions or Department Committees and add to them as is deemed necessary to conduct the affairs of the Department.

The Department Adjutant, in conjunction with the Department Commander and Department Executive Director shall manage the business and legislative activities that are the responsibility of Department Headquarters.

Section 7. Department Inspector General(s)
The office of the Department Inspector General will consist of the Department Inspector General and Department Deputy Inspector General. They will work under the supervision of the Department Commander, and/or Department Adjutant or their designee and shall investigate any alleged violations of the National Constitution and By-Laws, the Department Constitution and By-Laws and/or Chapter Constitution and By-Laws, including but not limited to occurrences which may impugn the integrity or reputation of the DAV.

Both the Inspector General and Deputy Inspector General may work independently or in conjunction with each other. The Inspector General and/or Deputy Inspector General are authorized to present the charges of an individual before the members in an Article 16 hearing. An anonymous complaint received by the office shall be reviewed, and a decision to investigate shall be made by the office, in consultation with the Commander and/or Adjutant.

Any member investigated by the Office of Inspector General shall be notified in writing by the Commander and/or Adjutant of the ongoing investigation, but not the specific details. Upon the conclusion of the investigation the individual(s) who have been investigated shall be notified of the findings/results in writing. The findings being (a.) Unfounded (b.) Founded (c.) Insufficient evidence or (d.) Recommended Article 16, signed by the Commander and/or Adjutant.

Section 8: Department Executive Director
The Department Executive Director is an integral part of the three (3) person Department Headquarters team. He or she shall be part of the daily, day to day decisions of Department Headquarters, recognizing the final decision rests with the Department Commander and/or Department Adjutant.

The Department Executive Director shall help manage the Department Headquarters operation, overseeing the work of non-elected staff assigned to Department Headquarters. He or she will oversee all DAV Hospital Service Coordinators and review all reports from the HSCs.

The Department Executive Director shall be responsible for maintaining all personnel files of Department Headquarters staffing, as appropriate.

The Department Executive Director may act on behalf of the Department Commander and/or Department Adjutant when they are not available.

The Department Executive Director shall be authorized to act on any and all other duties assigned by the Department Commander and/or Department Adjutant.

Section 9. Records
Each retiring officer shall within ten days turn over to his/her successor all records and properties in his/her possession pertaining to his/her office.

ARTICLE VI – DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Powers:
Between Department Conventions, the legislative power shall vest in the Department Executive Committee which shall be composed of the Department Commander and all other Elected Officers, Past Department Commanders, and one Executive Committeeman from each Department District. All elected Department Officers and Past Department Commanders and duly elected Department Executive Committeemen shall be entitled to one vote each.

All legislative and all matters not specifically covered by this Constitution or the resolutions of the Department Convention shall be determined by the Department Executive Committee.

The newly installed Department Commander will appoint a Department Adjutant and Department Executive Director, Department Inspector General and Department Deputy Inspector General. The Department Commander may also appoint a Department Historian, and a Department Sergeant-at-Arms immediately after being installed, and such appointment is subject to ratification by the Department Executive Committee at his/her first meeting after the Convention as prescribed in Article Vi, Section 3(a).

Section 2. Department Executive Committeemen:
At each Department Convention, the Chapter Delegates present and voting from each Department District shall in caucus elect a Department Executive Committeeman and an Alternate, whose term of office shall be for the ensuing year. Department Executive Committeeman may not succeed themselves nor may any member of their same Chapter be elected in that same year, as long as there are Representatives from other Chapters within their District attending the Department Convention who are willing to be elected and to serve.

Overall, in order to increase participation by as many Chapters as possible within the Department, the larger Chapters within each District are encouraged to assist the smaller Chapters within their District in electing a smaller Chapter's Representative as Department Executive Committeeman or Alternate as long as the smaller Chapter's Representative is present at the Department Convention, willing to be elected and to serve. It is generally expected, although not required, that

an alternate Department Executive Committeeman would be elected to move to Department Executive Committeeman, provided they have participated by attending the Department Executive Meeting that year, are present at the Department convention, willing to be elected and to serve. Where there is an absence of the Alternate Department Executive Committeeman, then the Chapters present at the Department convention within that District will elect a Department Executive Committeeman and Alternate from among all the Chapter Representatives present who are willing to be elected and to serve.

The number of votes which any Chapter shall be entitled to cast shall be in accordance with Article IV, Section 4 of this Constitution. Said election shall take place prior to close of the Convention proceedings and be certified to the Department Adjutant.

The Department Executive Committeeman in each District must report the results of this election to the office of the Department Adjutant at or before 10:00 a.m. of the morning of the last day of the Convention.

Section 3. Meetings:
Regular Meetings: The Department Executive Committee shall meet immediately following the adjournment of the Department Convention in June and at least once during January, February or March of each year, and at these regular meetings any and all business affecting the affairs of the Department may be properly discussed and acted upon. Nine members of the Department Executive Committee must be present to constitute a quorum. Department Executive Committee Meetings shall be called by the Department Commander and written notices thereof shall be mailed at least 10 days in advance of the meeting.

In addition to the foregoing, Special Meetings may be called on seven days' written notice by the Department Commander and shall be called by the Department Commander at the written request of at least nine members of the Department Executive Committee. At such meetings only such business as is specifically referred to in the call of the meetings shall be discussed and acted upon, except that by unanimous consent of all members of the Department Executive Committee present at any such Special Meeting, business other than that mentioned in the call of the meeting may be discussed. The meeting shall be held at the place designated by the Department Commander who shall, so far as possible, call the meetings in various parts of the state for convenience of the members of the Department Executive Committee.

Virtual meetings are permitted when an in-person quorum is made. All membership must be validated by using the member number and email address. Members attending virtually are allowed to vote on all matters, except the election of officers. The election of officers must be an in-person vote. Neither the Chapter nor the Department is responsible for any computer errors or

glitches during the meeting, nor are they responsible for purchasing the equipment for attending the meetings virtually.

Section 4. Ballots:
The regular business of the organization requiring the consideration of the Department Executive Committee between stated meetings, shall be transacted through the office of the Department Adjutant by mail, electronic notification (email) or facsimile machines. In the event, any member of the Department Executive Committee who fails to vote shall not be entitled to any monetary benefits of the office, if any.

Section 5. Powers:
In addition to the powers expressly given to it by this Constitution, all Legislative, Administrative and Executive matters not otherwise specifically covered by the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws and regulations of the Organization or by any enactment of the State Convention shall be determined by the Department Executive Committee.

Section 6. Vacancies:
Vacancies occurring between Department Conventions shall be filled by a vote of the Department Executive Committee, except that the Department Senior Vice-Commander shall automatically take over the duties of the Department Commander, and in the event a vacancy also occurs in the office of Department Senior Vice-Commander, and/or Department Junior Vice-Commanders in the order listed in the Department Directory shall automatically advance to the next higher office.

ARTICLE VII – FINANCES

Section 1. Custody of Funds:
All Department Funds shall be held in the name of the Department of New York in various depositories within New York State as directed by the Department Finance Committee or the Department Executive Committee subject to the approval of the Department Convention. The Department shall insure that proper insurance is maintained to guard against any loss due to the misuse of Department funds by any persons who have access to finances.

Section 2. Revenue:
The revenue of the Department shall be derived from such funds as may be paid to the Department by the National Organization on account of or as payment of Life Membership dues and from fundraising projects under the direction of the Department Finance Committee and the National Executive Committee.

Section 3. Audit:
The financial books and records of the Department shall be audited by a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) at the close of each fiscal year. A report of this audit shall be submitted to the Department Convention and printed in the report of the proceedings of the Convention.

An Audit Committee shall be appointed to annually review the report of the CPA and submit said annual report to the National Department, pursuant to National Disabled American Veterans requirement.

Section 4. General Funds:
All monies received from whatever source by and for the Department and not raised for a specific purpose shall constitute the General Fund.

Section 5. Custody of Funds:
The Department Treasurer shall be the custodian of the General Fund and all Special Funds except those which have been committed to the custody of some other officer, committee, or member by enactment of the Department Convention or the State Executive Committee. . All budgeted items and line items may be spent/paid without a new DEC or Finance Committee approval.

Whenever a transfer of funds is made from one account to another or approved line item to another line item, the finance committee shall be notified for their information only.
All bills, cancelled checks, checkbooks and financial records shall be received, maintained and secured at Department Headquarters.

Section 6. Voucher System:
All disbursements shall be by checks signed by any two of the following: Department Commander, Department Treasurer, Department Adjutant, Department Executive Director or additional signatories authorized by the Department Finance Committee, and shall be based upon authorized vouchers. All vouchers must be cosigned by the Department Adjutant.

Section 7. Department Finance Committee:
The Department Finance Committee shall consist of the Department Commander, the Department Treasurer and three members appointed by the Department Commander. The Department Adjutant, Department Executive Director and Department Judge Advocate shall be non-voting members of the Committee.

The Department Commander shall designate one of the appointed members of the Committee to serve, at the Department Commander's pleasure, as Chairman of the Committee, during the tenure of office of the Department Commander.

The Department Commander shall appoint three (3) members to the Department Finance Committee. Said appointment shall follow his/her election at the department convention. Appointed members of the Department Finance committee shall serve a one-year term. Their term shall expire when the Department Commander who appointed them leaves said office for whatever reason. Appointment of members shall be made at the first DEC meeting following the close of the Department Convention. Appointments to vacancies occurring before the expiration of a full term shall be made by the Department Commander when the vacancy occurs and shall be for the balance of the unexpired term only.

The Department Finance Committee shall prepare the budget for each fiscal year and shall make revisions as may be necessary. It shall submit the Budget and revised budget to the Department Convention or Department Executive Committee, as the case may be, for approval.
The Department Finance Committee shall monitor the manner in which the budgetary proposals are carried out by the Department Officers. It shall make reports and recommendations to the Department Commander, the Department Executive committee and the Department Convention in this connection.

Every proposed expenditure which is not a budgeted item, shall be approved by the Department Adjutant, Department Commander or Department Executive Director, if Department Adjutant or Department Commander are unavailable, except that any unbudgeted expenditures over $5,000 shall be referred to the Department Finance Committee for approval.

The Department Adjutant together with the Department Finance Committee shall supervise the disbursement and investment of all Department Funds.

The Department Finance Committee shall initiate and supervise fundraising activities of the Department; and where required obtain the approval of the National Executive Committee.

The Department Adjutant together with the Finance Committee shall be empowered to approve all chapter fundraising, except for Forget-Me-Not Drives.

The Department Finance Committee shall meet during July, October, and December of each year at a date, time, and place to be determined. The Department Finance Committee may meet at other times if a meeting is called by the Department Adjutant or the Department Commander.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments: The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at the Department Convention by a favorable vote of two-thirds of the total authorized representation present and

voting, provided, however, that the proposed amendment shall have been read to such Department Convention at least 24 hours prior to the voting thereon.

Section 2. To the extent to which any of the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws are, or may at any time become, inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws and lawful mandates, decisions and regulations of either the governing State Department or the National Organization, as now in force or as hereafter amended or adopted, this instrument shall be deemed amended as to conform thereto.

I certify, to the best of my knowledge that the Constitution and Bylaws of this Department do not conflict with those of the National Organization and to that extent are hereby approved.

MICHAEL A. MARTIN, PDC, Department Adjutant
Dated: July 6, 2026

Michael Dobmeier, PNC, DAV 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: 7-17-2026
DAV National Judge Advocate