

National Constitution, Bylaws Standing Rules Committee

ANNOUNCEMENT

081823

National Convention and Reunion

Change to Article VII, Section 2,

At the 2023 Convention and Reunion held in San Antonio, Texas. There was a Resolution 2023-3 presented to the membership to **change the waiting time** before the Commander and V. Commander could run for re-election for their respective Offices from (3)three years to (2) two years.

After the discussion with questions and answers there was a Roll Call vote. The results of the vote showed that out of 178 possible votes, 164 voted in favor of the change and 14 voted against the changed.

Resolution 2023-3 was approved as presented.

The following pages should be substituted into your 2023 Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Ruled handbook.

David J. BUCHANAN, PNC

Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules Chairman, (2023-2024)

ARTICLE VII NATIONAL OFFICERS

SECTION 1

- A. The National Convention shall elect the following National Officers each year, for a term of One (1) year:

One (1) National Commander, one (1) National Vice Commander, and six (6) National District Commanders, one (1) each for the following National Districts: North- East, South-East, North-Central, South-Central, North-West, and South-West.

The Islands and territories within each of the following Districts shall be as specified in Standing Rule 2, "District Organization".

The Delegates to the National Convention from each of the six (6) Districts shall caucus at the Convention and determine the name of the person that they want to represent their respective District, and that name shall be given to the Nominating Committee as the person to be nominated as the respective District Commander.

- B. National Trustees. All Trustees shall be elected for a term of Two (2) years. In years that end in odd numbers (example 2003), the National Convention shall elect Two (2) Trustees, and for years that end in even numbers (example 2004), the National Convention shall elect Three (3) Trustees, always maintaining a total of Five (5) elected Trustees.

- C. The National Convention shall also elect one (1) National Secretary to serve continuously until he/she resigns, is unable to act, or is removed by action of the National Convention for failure to duly perform his/her duties as specified in Article IX, Section 4, of these By-Laws. The National Secretary shall be the Secretary of the National Island at Large.

- D. The National Convention shall elect One (1) National Treasurer to serve continuously until he/she resigns, is unable to act, or is removed by action of the National Convention for failure to duly perform his/her duties as specified in Article IX, Section 5, of these By-Laws. (2021djb)

- E. The National Convention shall also elect and assure the perpetuation of the Organization's "Standing Committees" being:

Budget / Finance Committee
Constitution and By-Laws Committee,
Convention Committee
Internet Committee,
Life Membership Committee,
Membership Committee,
National Publications Committee,
Publicity Committee,
Resolutions Committee,
Ship's Store Committee.

The elected Chairperson of the Standing Committees shall hold office from Convention to Convention with the right to succeed themselves from year to year in the respective offices. (11DJB)

- F. The National Convention may, when it deems it necessary, elect a Chair who will form a Special Committee with a minimum of five (5) members, including the Chairman, for any special purpose deemed advisable by the National Executive Committee and/or the National Convention.

SECTION 2

- A. No two (2) National District Commanders or National Trustees shall be from the same Department.

B. For elective officers, Members of Battalions, and/or Units At Large shall be considered to be outside of the Department in the State of their recorded address.

SECTION 3

All members in good standing shall be eligible for election or re-election to a National Office.

The term of office of National Commander and/or National Vice Commander, however, shall not exceed two (2) successive one (1) year terms.

Having once succeeded himself/herself in the same office, a member shall be ineligible for election to the same office for a period of two (2) years. **(Adopted 081823, San Antonio, TX. djb)**

No member shall serve as National Commander and as a member of the Board of Directors simultaneously.

When a National Commander is elected to succeed himself/herself, the members of the Board of Directors remain unchanged for that current year.

SECTION 4

The National Executive Committee shall appoint;

- (1) Chaplain,
- (2) Counselors,
- (1) Historian
- (1) Master-At-Arms
- (1) Parliamentarian
- (1) Service Officers,

at their first meeting following the National Convention as prescribed in Article VIII, Section 6-A, and such National Officers appointed shall hold office at the pleasure of the National Executive Committee.

SECTION 5

All Past National Commanders being active and in good standing in their respective Island and/or Department, shall be Life Delegates to the National Convention, with one (1) vote when present at the Convention, provided said entitled votes are registered and all fees have been paid, to be exercised by them with their respective Island or Departments of recorded membership.

All past National Commanders, being active and in good standing shall be Life Members of the National Executive Committee with one (1) vote when present.

(083023)