

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS of AMERICA, Inc.



ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION CONSTITUTION BYLAWS STANDING RULES Amended August 2022 Colorado Springs, Co.

Constitution, Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

David J. BUCHANAN, Chair

Jack TANGEN, National Commander

Charlie COFFIN, National Secretary

Jerry SCHMUCK, National Treasurer

Mr. Mark PEDERSEN, MJ, Department of New York

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION

NAVY SEABEE VETERANS of AMERICA, Inc.



NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

AMENDED 2022

The “NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.” with NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS perpetually incorporated in the State of Illinois in November 1954, under the “GENERAL NOT FOR PROFIT CORPORATION ACT” of the State of Illinois with Registered Office being: 4711 Howard, St. McHenry, Il., 60051-5700, organized for the purpose that:

We, the Veterans of the Naval Construction Forces and the Civil Engineer Corps of the United States Navy, who have honorably served our Country during time of war and peace, recognizing that service to God and Country is the foundation on which our Nation was founded, do hereby rededicate ourselves to that service, and further pledge our lives and actions to preserve the fundamental ideals of American Government, which we believe are Justice, Freedom, and Equality for all.

The **CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS** shall be five (5) in number, their names being the five (5) immediate Past National Commanders.

The Directors’ duties and responsibilities shall be as set forth and prescribed in the applicable regulations of the General Not for Profit Corporation Act of the State of Illinois.

The new member of the Board of Directors each year will act as Chairman of the Board.

The **official organizational emblem** shall be the “**FIGHTING BEE**” encircled with rope as authorized for use by the U.S. Navy Department, on a background of crossed fouled anchors, with the letters **SVA** on the circumference of the rope design on the emblem.

The perpetuity of these Articles of Incorporation shall be preserved by the required filing of annual application and payment of the filing fee by the Registered Agent and/or National Headquarters to the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois.

The Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc. shall sponsor and have jurisdiction over all **Auxiliaries** as outlined under Article XII (twelve) of the National By-Laws of the Corporation.

These Articles of Incorporation, as amended, of this Organization shall contain a record of the names of the “Original Signers.”

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**NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.
NATIONAL CONSTITUTION**

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NAVY SEABEE VETERANS OF AMERICA, INC.

CONSTITUTION

AMENDED 2022

ARTICLE I NAME

The official organizational name shall be The Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc., and its duly elected officers and duly elected and accredited delegates shall constitute the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE II EMBLEM

The official organizational emblem shall be the "FIGHTING BEE" encircled with rope, as authorized for use by the United States Navy Department, on a background of crossed fouled anchors, with the letters SVA on the circumference of the rope design on the emblem.

ARTICLE III NATURE

SECTION I

This Organization is a, and membership therein does not decrease, affect, or increase liability for military or police service.

Rank does not exist in the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc., and no member shall be addressed by his or her Military or Naval title at any Convention or Meeting of this Organization.

"Membership does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, disability, ethnic group or gender".

SECTION II

The Navy Seabee Veterans of America is **non-political** and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles or for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

No candidate for, or incumbent of, a salaried elective public office shall hold an elective office or remunerated appointed office in the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc.

Each member shall perform his or her full duty as a citizen according to his or her own conscience and understanding.

ARTICLE IV ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

This Organization shall adopt By-Laws by which it shall make such Rules and Regulations for the orderly conduct of business and activities as shall be deemed advisable.

ARTICLE V DECLARATION (PREAMBLE)

We, the Veterans of the Naval Construction Forces and the Civil Engineer Corps of the United States Navy, who have honorably served our Country during time of war and peace, recognizing that service to God and Country is the foundation on which our Nation was founded, do hereby rededicate ourselves to that service, and further pledge our lives and actions to preserve the fundamental ideals of American Government, which we believe are Justice, Freedom, and Equality for all.

ARTICLE VI NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Legislative body of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc., shall be the National Convention. National Conventions shall be **held annually**, at such time and place as determined by the National Convention Committee and approved at the general membership meeting.

The National Executive Committee shall determine the time and place of the National Convention in the case of inaction by the Convention Committee.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

This **Constitution may be amended** at any meeting of the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc. provided,

However, that such proposed amendments have been sent to each duly authorized member of the National Executive Committee, **at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of consideration**; having been **read at and recorded in the minutes of** the Navy Seabee Veterans of America, Inc. meeting **preceding the date of consideration**.

The adoption of amendments shall be by a majority vote. However, an adoption of amendments at a National Convention shall be by a majority roll call vote of the authorized delegates present and voting.