

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY UPDATE



Dec. 1, 2023

Greetings,

We hope you enjoy this week's National Council Weekly Update on the pertinent happenings of your VFW departments.

## **Development**

- Nov. 27 Appeal:
  - Giving Tuesday email #1 to all Friends of Freedom.
- Nov. 28 Appeal:
  - Giving Tuesday a.m. email #2 and p.m. email #3 to all Friends of Freedom.
- Dec. 1 Appeal:
  - December matching gift package to member and nonmember donors.

Contact: VFW Development Director Kelly Jones, [KellyJones@vfw.org](mailto:KellyJones@vfw.org).

## **VFW Store**

- For the second year, the VFW Store participated in Cyber Monday by providing shoppers with free shipping. We believe it was very successful with orders topping out at 967 and sales of almost \$95,000. This represents a 42.5% increase over our 2022 Cyber Monday sales. Special thanks to VFW and Auxiliary members across the globe.

Contact: VFW Store Director Hank Ellis, [Hank@vfw.org](mailto:Hank@vfw.org).

## **Human Resources**

- Positions Actively Recruiting For:
  - Maintenance Technician – D.C. Office.

Contact: VFW Human Resources Director Sari Maple, [SMaple@vfw.org](mailto:SMaple@vfw.org).

## **Administrative Operations**

- Department Inspections: We are moving forward with the Department Inspection initiative for the 2023-2024 term and have plans to complete ten (10) inspections this year. The hope is that we will have all inspections completed by May 2024, prior to the start of Department Conventions. We will be reaching out to the Departments that have been selected by the Commander-in-Chief as well as the inspection team members to begin working through availability and scheduling.

We look forward to another successful year of inspections and if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Quentin Carroll at [QCarroll@vfw.org](mailto:QCarroll@vfw.org).

- There are currently 49 Posts under suspension, six of which are new. We have processed one Post consolidation pursuant to Section 209 of the National Bylaws. The organization has 5,664 chartered Posts.
- Administrative Operations is engaged in 16 Article IX Disciplinary Actions, 16 Administrative Actions and nine membership eligibility challenges.
- We have 56 Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions in for review, nine of which are new; current turnaround time on Bylaws/Articles of Incorporation submissions is approximately 30 days.

Contact: VFW Administrative Operations Associate Director Zach Schwenk, [ZSchwenk@vfw.org](mailto:ZSchwenk@vfw.org).

## **Membership**

- Have you heard about the 8 Weeks of Christmas contest? See the flyer on the [Membership Facebook Page](#), or on [Instagram](#). Members can register multiple times to win prize packages each week through Dec. 31. Over one thousand members have registered to date, with more than 186 Posts participating in this contest. Help spread the word so your Posts do not miss out! Note: unfortunately, due to technical limitations of the contest platform, only Posts in North America can participate.
- Another Membership Monday will happen on Dec. 4, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. CST. This month we will have Open Office Hour. We will open the webinar up for Q&A for everything membership. Bring your questions and let us know your successes and your challenges halfway through the membership year.
- If you have a topic for training, we would love to hear from you! Contact us by emailing, [Membership@vfw.org](mailto:Membership@vfw.org). Be sure to follow our [Facebook Page](#)!

Contact: VFW Membership Interim Director Corey Hunt, [CoreyHunt@vfw.org](mailto:CoreyHunt@vfw.org).

## **Meetings and Events**

- Nov. 17, 2023 – went to Louisville to meet with convention center staff at Kentucky Convention Center to review space and discuss details for 2024 Louisville Convention. Walked space and plotted out locations for events.

- Nov. 28, 2023, – Finalized Marriott Hotel contract/Louisville – signed and returned.
- Forwarded Marriott Hotel contract to Louisville housing provider. Housing provider will begin setup of housing system that will be used for Louisville Convention. Note: housing will open Feb. 17, 2024.
- Confirmed housing for Planning Year meeting held in K.C. Dec. 4-6, 2023.
- Begin review of 2025 Columbus Convention contracts to include convention center and hotels as received. Forward on to legal for review with ultimate goal to finalize by Jan. 31, 2024.
- Ongoing work with legal on upcoming meeting contracts and addendums, 2024 and 2025 Senior Vice and Junior Vice Training, 2025 and 2026 Budget, Finance and Council of Administration meetings (Kansas City).

Contact: VFW Meetings and Events/Exhibits Director Vanessa Kane, CMP, CMM,  
[VKane@vfw.org](mailto:VKane@vfw.org).

### **VFW Foundation**

- The VFW Foundation is finalizing the 2024 VFW National Convention Sponsorship and Marketing Opportunities packet while reaching out to current and new prospective corporate partners. Additionally, we are exploring potential corporate sponsorship for the VFW Day of Service which will be held on May 4, 2024. Any questions can be directed to Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Brooke Brown, [BBrown@vfw.org](mailto:BBrown@vfw.org).
- The fifth annual Veterans Charity Classic Golf Tournament was held on Nov. 3, 2023, at the Providence Country Club in Charlotte, North Carolina. The event, which is organized by Sport Clips franchise owner Darin Bailey, with volunteers from the VFW Department of North Carolina, raised \$89,359 toward the VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" campaign! The grand total is still being finalized.

Contact: VFW Foundation Director of Donor Relations Richard Freiburghouse,  
[RFreiburghouse@vfw.org](mailto:RFreiburghouse@vfw.org).

### **National Veterans Service**

- NVS Director Michael Figlioli testified before the House Veterans Affairs Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Disability and Memorial Affairs (DAMA) on Quality Decision Making at the Board of Veterans Appeals on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2023.
- Executive and NVS leadership met with the director and staff of the Veterans Experience Office (VEO) for program updates and legislative initiatives for veterans, family members, survivors and those separating from military service.
- NVS held its monthly NVS Update with DSOs and staff on Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2023, via ZOOM.

- NVS leaders will meet with USAA and their customer service team to discuss providing crisis line training to administrative support staff for supporting callers in need.
- NVS health team attend Veterans Family Caregiver and Survivors Advisory meeting.
- NVS health team attend VA Health Outcomes and Military Exposure Briefing on Presumption Federal Registry Notices and Redesign of the Airborne Hazards Burn Pit Registry.
- VFW's NVS Pre-Discharge representatives briefed transitioning service members on VA benefits at Fort Bliss Texas, Fort Cavazos, Texas, Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, D.C., and Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.
- NVS BDD leadership participated in the VSO TAP 6.0 collaboration meet.
- NVS leadership participated in the quarterly Wounded Warrior Project collaboration meeting.

Contact: VFW National Veterans Service Director Michael Figlioli, [MFiglioli@vfw.org](mailto:MFiglioli@vfw.org).

