



# Memorandum

To: All Posts and Departments

From: Kevin C. Jones, Adjutant General

Date: July 29, 2020

Pursuant to Section 618(a)(4) and the National Council of Administration's July 27, 2020 concurrence for navigating the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions, the following mandate is hereby issued. This order applies to all levels of the organization and supersedes all other guidance that would otherwise conflict with conducting the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions.

The intent of Executive Order No. 1 is to allow the business of the organization to be continued and conducted in a fair manner that observes the rights of all members while complying with government orders and mandates where COVID-19 restrictions exist. Any attempt to utilize this order to restrict, restrain, or impede the rights of members is strictly prohibited.

This Executive Order is issued under the authority of Commander-in-Chief Roesch as all preceding Executive Orders issued under the authority of Commander-in-Chief Schmitz expired at the end of his term.

This memo along with the Executive Order is available behind the member login at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) as well as the document repository.

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## Executive Order No. 1

July 29, 2020

Pursuant to Section 618(a)(4) and the National Council of Administration's July 27, 2020 concurrence for navigating the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions, the following mandate is hereby issued. This order applies to all levels of the organization and supersedes all other guidance that would otherwise conflict with conducting the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 restrictions.

### **National:**

Pursuant to Section 618 (a)(5) of the National Bylaws, the Commander-in-Chief shall "insist that the business and activities of the organization are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance, or regulation or bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on this organization."

Therefore, the Commander-in-Chief at his judgement and discretion may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

### **Departments:**

Pursuant to Section 518 (a)(1)(c) of the Manual of Procedure, Department Commanders shall "insist that Department business and activities are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on the Department, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States."

Therefore, Department Commanders at their respective judgement and discretion may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

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**Districts:**

Pursuant to Section 418(a)(1)(d) of the Manual of Procedure, District Commanders shall “insist that District business and activities are conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment on the District, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.”

Therefore, District Commanders at their respective judgement and discretion may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings and conventions electronically.

**Posts:**

Pursuant to Section 218(a)(1)(c) of the Manual of Procedure, Post Commanders shall “insist that Post business and activities be conducted in such a manner that they do not violate any applicable governmental law, ordinance or regulation nor bring or tend to bring dishonor or embarrassment upon the Post, its members or the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.”

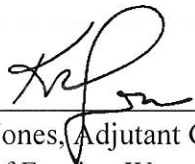
Therefore, Post Commanders at their respective judgement and discretion may make such accommodations to conduct the fraternal business of the organization within COVID-19 federal, state, and local governmental ordinances and guidelines where COVID restrictions apply to include conducting such required meetings electronically.

By order of:



Harold “Hal” Roesch II, Commander-in-Chief  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Official:



Kevin C. Jones, Adjutant General  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

