



2025 Mid-Winter Conference Inspector General Seminar



KEEPING OUR PROMISE TO
AMERICA'S VETERANS

Mission Statement

We are dedicated to a single purpose:
empowering veterans to lead high-quality
lives with respect and dignity. We accomplish
this by making sure veterans and
their families can access the full range
of benefits available to them; fighting for
the interests of America's injured heroes
on Capitol Hill; and educating the public
about the great sacrifices and needs of
veterans transitioning back to civilian life.

- Providing free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government;
- Providing outreach concerning its program services to the American people generally, and to disabled veterans and their families specifically;
- Representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses and their orphans before Congress, the White House and the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government;
- Extending DAV's mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of state-level Departments and local Chapters; and
- Providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express their compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.

Chapter/Department Leadership

- Commander
 - Sr. Vice Commander
 - Jr. Vice Commander(s)
 - Adjutant
 - Treasurer
 - Judge Advocate
-

Chapter/Department Leadership

■ Commander

- * Elected by the body to act upon the wishes as determined by a majority vote of members. Not a ruler or dictator.
- * Spokesperson of the body.
- * Chairs all Committees.
- * Negotiator / Voice of reason.

Chapter/Department Leadership

- **Sr. Vice Commander**

- * Usually the Chair of the Membership Committee.
- * Fills in for the Commander in their absence.
- * May serve on or Chair other Committees.
- * Stays engaged and learns for future opportunities.

Chapter/Department Leadership

- **Jr. Vice Commander**

- * Serve as Sr. Vice Commander in the absence of the Sr. Vice Commander.
- * Chairs various Committees (VAVS, Fundraising, etc.)
- * Stays engaged and learns for future opportunities.
- * Mentor members.

Chapter/Department Leadership

▪ Adjutant

- * CEO of the body.
- * Secretary at all meetings.
- * Handles all correspondence and ensures timely submission of all reports.
- * Must be organized, and able to communicate effectively on behalf of the body.

Chapter/Department Leadership

■ Treasurer

- * CFO of the body.
- * Provide timely and accurate financial reports at every meeting.
- * Reconciles any credit or debit card transactions.
- * Ensures the proper distribution of all payments obligated by the wishes of the body.
- * Must be trustworthy and organized.
- * Responsible for the timely filing of IRS Form 990.

Chapter/Department Leadership

- **Judge Advocate**

- * Parliamentarian of the body.
- * Chair of the C&B Committee
- * Interprets the C&B of the body, with the approval of the Commander and/or membership.
- * Knowledgeable of the C&B of all entities

Electing Leadership

- Elections occur on an annual basis.
- Ensure your electing trustworthy leaders.
- Conduct a simple Google search.
- Ensure Nominations Committee asks appropriate questions.
- Ensure everyone has a strong public speaking ability.
- Ensure Treasurer is fiscally responsible.



Fundraiser Approval

- If by chapter, prior approval of the DEC and possibly NEC. (Contracts, outside entities, etc.)
- If by department, prior approval must be obtained by the NEC.
- All fundraising requests must specify the particular service program which will benefit from the proceeds.
 - All funds generated must be used to support the designated program in a timely manner.

Forget-Me-Not

- Chapters may conduct Forget-Me-Not Drives for a period not to exceed seven days throughout the membership year.
- Prior approval from the Department is not required, so long as a promoter is not involved. However, notification of the dates of the events must be provided to the Department.
- Departments – A Department may conduct a Forget-Me-Not Drive in areas where there are no local Chapters without prior approval from the National Organization.
- ALL FUNDS GENERATED FROM FORGET-ME-NOT DRIVES MUST BE UTILIZED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING SERVICE TO DISABLED VETERANS, THEIR DEPENDENTS AND SURVIVORS AND NO OTHER PURPOSE.

Golden Corral Military Appreciation

- Golden Corral Military Appreciation Monday events are intended to be a Department Fundraiser.
- Departments are responsible for determining the amount of funds to be returned to chapters that participate in the fundraiser.
- Departments are also responsible for selecting chapters to participate at local restaurants in their state.
- No other fundraiser can occur simultaneously during the event.
- Golden Corral Staff and/or DAV members cannot require proof of veteran status.

Bar/Lounge, Bingo & Thrift Stores

- May be allowed for the purpose of raising money in order to support service programs in the community.
- Revised NEC Regulation 4 requires any bar/lounge, bingo operation, thrift store, or similar fundraiser to provide **at least** 10% of its gross annual proceeds to DAV service programs.
- These fundraisers require the approval of the Department.
- The National Organization continues to monitor these programs closely to ensure compliance with NEC Regulation 4.
- Subordinate units operating these operations are responsible for regulatory filings.

Donations

- All donations received from the public **MUST** be done face-to-face.
 - ❖ The only approved method of electronic payment is Square.



- ❖ Absolutely **no** solicitation or acceptance of funds electronically or online.

Expenditure of funds

- Ensure donations support veteran programs and services.
- Spend Chapter/Department donations on DAV programs and services.
 - If the donor wanted their money to go to another organization they would've donated it to them.
 - Instead of providing a monetary donation purchase the items needed.
 - For example, providing toiletries to a veterans home instead of providing a monetary donation to purchase.

Q&A

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