

Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
1400 Carr Street
Lakewood, CO 80214

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 1

July 1, 2024

SERIES: 2024-2025

1. **Having been duly elected and installed** into the office of Commander, Department of Colorado, according to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby assume command of the Department of Colorado. All previously appointed officers' and committee persons' term of office is hereby declared expired. The following officers have been duly elected and installed at the 104th Annual Convention held June 5-8, 2024, Cripple Creek, CO., and having full authority to act and shall be obeyed accordingly: COMMANDER: Carol Thomas, #12009; SR. VICE COMMANDER: Fredric Scheck, #6624; JR. VICE COMMANDER: Todd Van Sant, #9644; ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER: Jesse Eastburn, #1; CHAPLAIN: Kevin Reinhold, #6461; JUDGE ADVOCATE: Kirk Rosa, #12009; SURGEON: James Sheridan, #2788; CHIEF OF STAFF: William Flores, #899; INSPECTOR: Eric Hutchins, #3917; JR. PAST DEPT. COMMANDER: John Keene, #1; SERVICE OFFICER: Mathew Cummings, #6624; ASST SERVICE OFFICER: Ralph Overhelman, #1771; ASST SERVICE OFFICER: Matthew Lewis, #3917; ASST SERVICE OFFICER: Richard Ball, #3981; DISTRICT 1 COMMANDER: Samuel Wybenga, #1; DISTRICT 2 COMMANDER: Joshua Caverzagie, #4061; DISTRICT 3 COMMANDER: Dwayne Windisch, #47; DISTRICT 4 COMMANDER: Michael Stevens, #3541; DISTRICT 5 COMMANDER: Travis Baker, #6461; DISTRICT 6 COMMANDER: Jesus Garcia, #2411; DISTRICT 7 COMMANDER: William Flores, #899; DISTRICT 8 COMMANDER: Kirk Rosa, #12009; DISTRICT 9 COMMANDER: Jeremy Garber, #4265; DISTRICT 10 COMMANDER: Leroy Chavez, #7945; DISTRICT 11 COMMANDER: Leonard Ladue, #3981; DISTRICT 12 COMMANDER: Tommy Endres, #5231; DISTRICT 13 COMMANDER: Robert Renfrew #6491.
2. **COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION:** The next *Council of Administration meeting will be Sunday, August 25, 2024, in Cortez at the Montezuma County Annex Building, 107 N Chestnut St, Cortez, CO 81321.* Joint Opening will be at 8:30 A.M. ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS OR THEIR PROPER REPRESENTATIVE MUST BE PRESENT. Any and all District and Post Officers and members are invited to attend. Uniform of Sunday will be black and whites. All Council members must sign the roster with the Department Adjutant to record your presence at the Council of Administration meeting and workshops. *Training Sessions will be on Saturday August 24, 2024 at the Elks Lodge 1789, 2100 Dolores Rd, Cortez, CO 81321.* Dress code for Saturday training is casual.
3. **2024 SPRING SWEEPSTAKES:** Prize winners of the Spring Sweepstakes will be listed in the August Colorado Veteran.
4. **SUBSCRIPTION DUES** notices will be mailed to the membership by National Headquarters. Call Department Headquarters with any questions.
5. **NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE:** All Posts are reminded of the provision of the National By-Laws, which requires at least one registration from each Post. The registration fee of \$25.00 for the first Delegate and \$10.00 for the rest of the Delegates and a completed registration form must be sent to the Quartermaster General, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., 406 West 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111.
6. **QUARTERMASTER BONDS - AUDITS:** It is the duty of Commander to see that the office of Quartermaster is bonded and that Trustees Reports of Audits are completed, signed by the Commander and Trustees, and mailed or emailed to Department Headquarters no later than 25 days following the close of each quarter. All Quartermaster bonds carried through Department expire August 31, 2025. Quartermaster Bonds are required per Article VII, Sec 703 of the National Bylaws. Bond Applications have been emailed to the Post Commanders & Quartermasters and District Commanders.
7. **DEPARTMENT COLOR GUARD:** All requests for the State Color Guard Units will be directed by the State Commander to Jerry Sallee and will be handled in order of priority established by the Commander and recommendations from the District being considered. All requests will be submitted in writing to the

State Commander, and it is requested that a copy be sent to Captain Jerry Sallee at HC63, Box 101, Monticello, UT 84535.

8. **COMMUNITY SERVICE and OTHER REPORTS:** Post Commanders are advised that all Community Service, Youth Activity, Americanism, Loyalty Day, Hospital and others pertaining to the Department Program report – REPORT DIRECTLY on the Department Web Site, vfwco.org. The reporting year commences April 1, 2024. Do not report programs completed prior to that date for the reporting year 2024-2025. Go to VFW Members, on the right side click on Reporting and all the instructions and Programs are listed. Do Not send to Department Headquarters. VFW Program Chairman will be notified that you have reported and will record your cash, hours and miles for the Program year. Report, Report, Report.
9. **VFW CAPS, OFFICIAL:** All personnel are advised that there is only one official cap of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, a cap of the overseas type, lettered with VFW initials, Post numerals, State, rank of office (when applicable), and bearing the Cross of Malta emblem. Organizational echelons will be designated by the appropriate color of the braid and lettering on the cap. *Caps will not be worn while eating or seated during meals.* All other types of headgear, i.e., baseball types, western types, sporting types, are not official headgear and will not be worn at meetings of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
10. **2023-2024 AWARDS:** Posts or individuals who have not received the appropriate awards they earned from the Department of Colorado in the 2023/2024 year, please notify Department in writing.
11. **MEMBERSHIP:** The new membership year has started. Sign up a new and/or reinstated member and earn awards from the Department.
12. **To VFW Auxiliary** President Nadia Flores, Department Officers and Auxiliary, I hereby pledge the continued support of all the members of the Department of Colorado Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

ATTESTED BY:

\s\ Jesse L. Eastburn
Jesse L. Eastburn
Department Adjutant

BY COMMAND OF:

\s\ Carol J. Thomas
Carol J. Thomas
Department Commander