



**John McNeal, Commander
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To:

Date: 28 September 2021

Charles O'Leary, Commander
Department of Oklahoma
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Tim Smith, NEC
Department of Oklahoma
American Legion

Carl Kuykendall, Adjutant
Department of Oklahoma
American Legion

SUBJECT: 2021 American Legion National Convention – Committee Report

NATIONAL CEMETERY COMMITTEE REPORT

Dear Sirs,

Each year I look forward to attending the American Legion National Convention, when possible, so upon notification from NEC Tim Smith that I would again receive a "Call-In" to attend the 2021 Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, I anxiously began preparing. My Call-In was to the National Cemetery Committee meeting on Saturday, August 28, 2021, and I was asked by the Department to attend the Sub-Committee meeting, as a Department Representative the following day, which I gladly accepted. We only had one item to vote on after our election of officers, which was a requested expansion to one of the National Cemeteries in Missouri. I arrived in Phoenix on Friday, August 27th and was able to stay through the General Session and our Southern Caucus Breakfast on Wednesday, September 1st before having to return to Oklahoma to participate in an annual Post event.

Having worked in the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) system as a (VA) Volunteer for 13 years, I've learned that changes are inevitable, and there were several items I hoped to be able to discuss with representatives from NCA and other members of the National Cemetery Committee/Sub-Committee. Our committee was fortunate to have Retired General Quinn, Under Secretary for the Department of Veterans Affairs as our speaker this year and his presentation was nothing short of EXCELLENT! He answered several of our questions, clarified some 'mis-information' that always finds its way into the field, and made himself available after each session for questions and clarification. I have attached his PowerPoint briefing to this report for the benefit of dissemination throughout our Department and will make myself available to your questions. Thank you.

Respectfully,

John McNeal, Post 306
National Cemetery Committeeman
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