



**Marine Corps League
Department of South Carolina**

23 March 2023

To: Department of South Carolina Judge Advocate Claude Davis III

From: Helen Breen, Commandant, Low Country Detachment #803 / Department of SC

Re: Proposed Bylaw Amendment

In accordance with Article Eight, Miscellaneous, Section 800 of the Department of South Carolina Bylaws, I respectfully propose the following amendment to Section 235 – Travel Expenses

Current Bylaw:

Section 235 – Travel Expenses

(a) Department Officers may be reimbursed for auto travel expenses at the current published IRS rate for charity travel, when such expense is incurred in the performance of official scheduled Department Training, official visitations, and Board Meetings and service on a Grievance Hearing Board, providing such expenses are requested and approved by the Department Board of Trustees.

(b) Department reimbursement vouchers are to be obtained from the Department Paymaster and submitted with receipts within thirty (30) days of the expenditure, providing said expenditures do not exceed the amount in the Department budget.

(c) Expenses for Air travel or food are not reimbursable.

Proposed Amendment:

Section 235 – Travel Expenses

(a) no change

(b) no change

REVISED / ADDITION (c) Should the Department Commandant be required, in the performance of his/her duties, to attend a Marine Corps League Conference / Convention at a location more than a 12-hour drive from his/her home, air fare for a coach or economy ticket may be reimbursed versus auto travel expenses.

REVISED (d) Expenses for meals or rental vehicles are not reimbursable.

REVISED / ADDITION (e) Additionally, the Commandant or his/her authorized designated representative is authorized reimbursement, as appropriated in the annual budget, for hotel expenses to the Division / National Events listed below, when satisfactory proof of expense is presented to the Paymaster. Payment shall not exceed amount approved detailed in the Department budget approved by the membership at Annual Department Convention.

- 1) Southeast Division Conference
- 2) National Mid-Winter Conference
- 3) Department Annual Convention



**Marine Corps League
Department of South Carolina**

23 March 2023

Rationale:

(c) It is not always feasible for the Commandant to take additional travel time to drive to events that he/she is required to attend. Allowing the reimbursement of a standard air fare may encourage Marines currently in the work force or those with a more limited budget to potentially move up to the Commandant role and fulfil those duties as required. It will be a slightly higher cost to the Department but would only be required if/when MidWinter or National Conventions are held in the Western and more distant states in the Southern, Central and Eastern Quadrants. Most of the travel within the Southeast Division is within a 12-hour drive, with the exception of the farthest east of South Carolina to the farthest west of Louisiana.

Overall, outlining the reimbursed travel for the Department Commandant allows potential leadership to understand the outlay they have as Department Commandant and what requirements are expected of them.

Respectfully Submitted,
Helen Breen
hbreen.mcl@gmail.com