



# 2024 Edition

## General Roy S. Geiger

## Detachment 1047

## Bylaws



## MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047  
Clay County, Florida

DATE: 16 OCT 2024

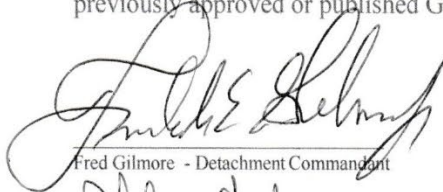
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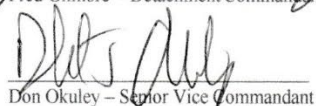
Subj: **MCL GENERAL ROYS GEIGER DETACHMENT#1047 BYLAWS**

Ref: (a) Current Edition of National Bylaws (NBL)  
(b) Current Edition of the National Administrative Procedures (NAP)  
(c) Current Edition of the Department of Florida Bylaws and Administrative Procedures

1. **Purpose:** These Bylaws provide guidance concerning the organization and function of the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047, the primary goal being to ensure that the detachment is operated in accordance with the MCL structure and to follow all local, state, and national laws.
2. **Background:** The National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, amplified by the DOF Bylaws, state the responsibilities incumbent upon all Marine Corps League members and state the requirements that will facilitate the mission of this detachment.
3. **Goal:** The goal of the Detachment Bylaws is to provide detachment leadership effective resources and guidance to ensure the detachment is successful and relevant to the membership. These Detachment Bylaws and the MCL and DOF Administrative Procedures shall set the specific guidelines and requirements for all Marine Corps League members to follow.
4. **Ratification and Effective Date:** This 2024 Edition of the Bylaws was presented to all members at the General Roy S Geiger Detachment 1047 general meeting on September 18, 2024. There was a motion and a second by qualified members to accept and approve these Detachment Bylaws. The discussion phase was opened, all questions were addressed, and necessary changes made. These Detachment Bylaws were ratified and approved by majority vote of all members present at the Detachment's general meeting on May 15, 2024. This 2024 Edition Bylaws became effective on May 15, 2024.
5. **Bylaws Terminate and Supersede.** Upon the approval of the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047 Bylaws (The Bylaws) as herein published, said Bylaws shall terminate, supersede, and replace in its entirety any previously approved or published General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047 Bylaws.



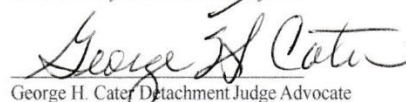
Fred Gilmore - Detachment Commandant



Don Okuley - Senior Vice Commandant



Charles F. Myers Detachment Adjutant



George H. Cater Detachment Judge Advocate

**TABLE OF CONTENTS****ARTICLE I: Name, Purpose, and Resolve**

100 Name	4
105-Mission Statement	4
110-The Purpose of the Marine Corps League	4
115-Not for Profit	5
120-Non-Discrimination	5
125-Resolve of the Detachment	5

**ARTICLE II: Membership**

200-Membership	5
205-Membership Dues and Fees	5
210-Ineligible Members	6
215-Removal from Detachment Rolls	7
220-Membership Listing	7

**ARTICLE III: Officers**

300-Governing Body	8
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**ARTICLE IV: Election of Officers**

400-Election of Officers	9
405-Report of Officer Installation (ROI)	9
410-Nominations	9
415-Elections	9
420-Ballots	9
425-Vacancies	10

**ARTICLE V: Meetings**

500-Meetings	10
505-General and Special	10
510-Board of Trustees	10
515-Quorum	10
520-Parliamentary Authority	10
525-Contracting Authority	10

**ARTICLE VI: Committees**

600- Elected	10
605-Members	10

**ARTICLE VII: Fiscal and Financial**

700-Commandant	11
705- Elected Officers	11
710- Membership	11
715-Board of Trustees	11
720-Judge Advocate	11

**ARTICLE VIII: Uniforms**

800-Uniforms	11
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**ARTICLE IX: Amendments**

900-Detachment Bylaws Amendments	11
905-National and Department Bylaws	12
910-Distribution	12
915-Clerical Errors	12
920-Bylaws Revision History	12

**ARTICLE X: Detachment Charter Suspensions, Revocation, Voluntary Surrender and Dissolution**

1000- Detachment Charter Suspension and Revocation	12
1005- Detachment Voluntary Surrender of Charter	13
1010 Dissolution	13

<b>ENDORSEMENT PAGE:</b> Department of Florida Judge Advocate Approval	14
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**ARTICLE I:  
Name, Purpose, and Resolve**

**Section 100: Name.** The name of this Detachment shall be the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047. This Detachment is affiliated with and has been chartered by the National organization of the Marine Corps League. The Detachment charter was issued on October 27, 2003. These bylaws are to conform to the bylaws, administrative procedures, regulations, and policies issued by the National and Department of Florida organizations.

**Section 105: Mission Statement.** The mission of the Marine Corps League is to promote the interest and to preserve traditions of the United States Marine Corps; strengthen the fraternity of Marines and their families; serve Marines, FMF Corpsmen and Chaplains who wear or who have worn the Eagle, Globe and Anchor; and foster the ideals of Americanism and patriotic volunteerism.

**Section 110: Purpose of the Marine Corps League.**

- a. To preserve the traditions and to promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps;
- b. To band those who are now serving in the United States Marine Corps and those honorably discharged from that service together in fellowship that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy;
- c. To fit its members for duties of citizenship and to encourage them to serve ably as citizens as they have served the nation under arms;
- d. To hold sacred the history and memory of the men and women who have given their lives to the Nation;
- e. To foster love for the principles they have supported by blood and valor since the founding of the republic;
- f. To maintain true allegiance to American institutions;
- g. To create a bond of comradeship between those in the service and those who have returned to civilian life;
- h. To aid voluntarily and to render assistance to all Marines, honorably discharged Marines, FMF qualified Navy personnel, as well as to their families, their widows, and their orphans;
- i. To perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps, and by fitting acts, to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions that are of particular interest to Marines.

**Section 115: Not for profit.** The General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047 and the entire MCL is not organized for and shall not be conducted for pecuniary gain or profit. No part of the property of the detachment or corporation and no part of its net earnings shall be used for the benefit of or be distributed to any officer, member, or other private individual. The Detachment shall never engage in regular business of a kind ordinarily conducted for profit or in any other activity except in furtherance of the purposes for which the Detachment or the MCL is organized.

**Section 120. Non-Discrimination.** This Detachment as a part of the Marine Corps League:

- a. Shall never take part in any labor or management dispute or issue;
- b. Shall not be sectarian, political, or partisan;
- c. Shall not base membership on race, color, creed, nationality, or sex;
- d. Shall not be used as a medium of political ambition or preferment' and
- e. Shall not use any members former or present military rank or former or present civilian position as the basis for special consideration or preferment.

**Section 125: The resolve of this Detachment.**

- a. This Detachment is organized as a charity for non-profit purposes. Individual members may not derive profit from any Detachment activity or program. However, this does not prohibit the Detachment from hiring a member or other person on a commercial basis to provide services to the detachment when the best interests of the Detachment or its programs will be best served thereby.
- b. The property of the Detachment is dedicated to the purposes of this veteran's organization and no part of the net income or assets of this Detachment shall ever be used to the benefit of any officer or member thereof or to the benefit of any private persons.

## **ARTICLE II** **Membership**

**Section 200: Membership.** Marine Corps League General Roy S Geiger Detachment 1047 is the sole judge of its membership, providing the said person meets the requirements established in the current National Bylaws.

**Section 205: Membership Dues and Fees.** Membership dues and fees will be as set by National, and the Department of Florida and such other fees as set by this Detachment. All such fees of this Detachment shall be subject to vote of the membership at a regular business meeting

before taking effect.

1. All members shall be considered in good standing in the Detachment and the Marine Corps League, except when:
  - a. Required dues are not paid on or before the membership expiration date as shown on the member's membership card.
  - b. A member is indebted or in arrears to the Detachment, Department, or National Headquarters.
2. In all cases involving transfer of a member of a Detachment, the losing Detachment approving the transfer shall certify in writing that the transferring member is in good standing.
3. A member shall be identified as delinquent when the member's dues are not paid by August 31<sup>st</sup> annually.
  - (1). Such member shall be retained in the delinquent status for a maximum of one (1) year, during which time the member may erase this status by making payment of all dues current and in arrears and provided that the member is not indebted to the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047, the Department of Florida, or to MCL National Headquarters.
  - (2) Should the affected member remain in the delinquent status more than one (1) year (or such lesser time as determined by the Detachment Board of Trustees), such member shall be dropped from all membership rolls. The good standing status of such a member shall be restored only through the processing of a standard application as a new member, including the initiation fees as prescribed by the Detachment and National bylaws.
  - (3) No delinquent member may be transferred.
- a. No member shall be deprived of any rights and privileges in the Marine Corps League or General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047 except for non-payment of dues or other indebtedness, unless the member shall first be charged, tried, and found guilty in accordance with the Provisions of the National bylaws and Administrative Procedures dealing with offences and penalties.
- b. The right of appeal under the Provisions of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures shall not be denied.

#### **Section 210: Ineligible Members.**

- a. If there is reason to believe a member of the Marine Corps League does not meet the

qualifications to be a member, the reason must be submitted in writing to the Detachment Commandant, who will assign the Detachment Judge Advocate to investigate the charge as presented, unless:

- (1) The person to be investigated is the Detachment Commandant, then the request will be given to the Detachment Senior Vice Commandant for action, or
  - 
  - (2) The person to be investigated is the Detachment Judge Advocate, then the Detachment Commandant will appoint a Past Detachment Commandant to hold the investigation.
- b. If the investigation determines that the member does not have the necessary qualifications to be a member, the officer who is investigating will present a written report of the investigation, with a draft of a disciplinary charge to the Detachment Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall file a charge with the Department Judge Advocate in accordance with National Administrative Procedures, Chapter Nine.

**Section 215. Removal from Detachment Rolls.** Once accepted as a member in good standing by the Detachment membership, that member may not be removed from the Detachment rolls except:

- a. By disciplinary action in accordance with National Administrative Procedures;
- b. By that member requesting transfer;
- c. By resignation in writing; or
- d. If a member becomes delinquent as defined in the National Administrative Procedures. e        Upon a Death Notice being processed by National Headquarters.

**Section 220: Membership Listing.** The membership listing of the MCL is proprietary information and under the direct control of the National Office of the League. Applicable portions of the membership listing are periodically provided to departments and detachments exclusively for internal usage in administrating membership of those organizations. The applicable portion of the membership listing provided the detachment (aka quarterly and detachment rosters requested at other times) shall only be distributed to members that have a direct need to use that information.



### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Officers**

#### **Section 300: Governing Body.**

- a. **The Board of Trustees (BOT):** The Detachment Board of Trustees shall consist of the elected officers of this Detachment, the Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, and the Judge Advocate, and the immediate past Commandant. A detachment is authorized to appoint the outgoing Junior Past Commandant or a past detachment commandant to serve a one- year term as a member of the Detachment Board of Trustees. These five officers shall comprise the Detachment Board of Trustees. Only regular members may hold these offices. Associate members are not eligible for elected office. Upon election, these officers must be sworn in accordance with the Administrative Procedures and a new Report of Installation must be submitted for those positions that changed.
  
- b. **Detachment Officers.** The detachment shall:
  - (1) Elect a commandant, a senior vice commandant, a junior vice commandant, and a judge advocate each year; and
  - (2) The Detachment Commandant shall appoint an adjutant, paymaster (or adjutant/paymaster), chaplain, and sergeant-at-arms.
  - (3) The Detachment may have additional elected and appointed officers as required by the detachment bylaws or the need of the Detachment. The Detachment Commandant shall also appoint these positions.
  - (4) All elected officers shall be regular members of the detachment in which they are elected.
  - (5) Any individual seeking elected office or who would be considered for appointed office should have completed the Department of Florida Professional Development Program within the previous year or plan to attend within the current year of their term of office.
  
- c. **The Detachment Staff:** The Detachment Commandant shall with the advice and consent of the Elected Officers, appoint an Adjutant, Paymaster, Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms, and other such officers as needed to effectively administer the business of the Detachment. Such officers comprise the detachment staff and are expected to assist the commandant in decisions and administrative activities and attend detachment meetings. Regular members and/or associate members may hold these offices in the detachment per the Bylaws. If in view of the Detachment BOT and a majority vote of the



membership at a regular meeting, it is deemed in the best interests of the detachment to elect rather than appoint any or all these officers, Section 300 b (2) shall be superseded.

- d. **Appointed Officers:** Detachment associate members may serve in appointed offices only.
- e. **Term Limits.** Each elected officer shall be elected for a term of one year and may be reelected for additional terms as provided in the Detachment Bylaws. Appointed officers shall serve a term that expires with the new installation after the annual election and may be reappointed to additional terms.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Election of Officers**

**Section 400: Election of Officers** Election officers for the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047 shall be conducted as the last order of business at the regularly scheduled monthly detachment meeting in March. Installation of the newly elected officers will be conducted no later than the last day of the month after the election.

**Section 405: A complete Report of Officer Installation (ROI)** will be available for the installation official to verify and sign. The ROI must be submitted to the Department Adjutant no later than 5 days after the installation date.

- a. The Report of Installation form must be received by National Headquarters by June 30th of each year to establish credentials for the National Convention. A Detachment is NOT in good standing if this report is not received.
- b. If at any time throughout the year there is a change in any officer position, that new officer must be sworn in accordance with the National Administrative Procedures and a supplemental Report of Installation must be submitted

**Section 410: Nominations.** Nominations of proposed officers of the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047 shall be made beginning in January as the last order of business of the monthly detachment meeting. A second and third round of nominations will be conducted at each of the subsequent detachment monthly meetings. Only regular members of the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment 1047 in good standing may be nominated for an elected officer position. Nominees must accept the nomination prior to their names being placed on the ballot.

**Section 415: Election of Officers.** shall be by paper ballot or by up or down vote of regular members in good standing present at such meeting.

**Section 420: Ballots.** The counting of ballots will be conducted by the Sergeant-at-Arms and verified by the Judge Advocate (unless the election is for the JA position) In the event, that either of these officers is not available, the Commandant will select a member of the Detachment to

perform this function.

**Section 425: Vacancies.** See Section 925 of the current National Bylaws

## **ARTICLE V** **Meetings**

**Section 500: Meetings.** The General Roy S. Geiger Detachment shall meet monthly on the third Wednesday at 1900 at the Detachment Headquarters, 34 Industrial Loop, Unit 208, Orange Park, Florida 32073. The detachment charter or a copy, the National Colors, and a Bible shall be displayed at all business meetings.

**Section 505: General and Special Meetings.** The Board of Trustees may call other general or special meetings as the business of the Detachment requires.

**Section 510: Board of Trustees Meetings.** Board of Trustees meetings should take place monthly at a mutually acceptable time, but in no case not less than four times per year to plan and administer the business of the Detachment.

**Section 515: Quorum:** A quorum for purposes of voting at a regular meeting of members shall consist of two (2) BOT members and three (3) regular members.

**Section 520: Parliamentary Authority.** The Detachment shall use the current edition of *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* which shall govern all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures and any special rules of order National may adopt. In the event of a conflict, the ruling authority is the National Bylaws, then the National Administrative Procedures, then *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised*.

**Section 525: Contracting Authority.** No detachment officer, committee chairperson or other member of any detachment shall enter or sign any contract or agreement for the purpose of binding the detachment without first submitting such contract or agreement to the Detachment Board of Trustees for approval, amendment, or rejection.

## **ARTICLE VI** **Committees**

**Section 600: Committees.** The Detachment Commandant with BOT approval may appoint such standing or ad hoc committees or initiate projects from time to time as deemed appropriate to assist in the performance of the business of the Detachment.

**Section 605: Members.** The members of such committees and projects serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees (BOT).

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Fiscal and Financial**

**Section 700: Commandant** The Commandant may approve the expenditure of up to and including \$200 for a non-budgeted expense in their favorable judgment.

**Section 705: Elected Officers.** The Commandant and the elected officers may approve the expenditure of \$200 up to and including \$500 for a non-budgeted expense.

**Section 710: Membership.** Any non-budgeted expenditure of more than \$500 requires the favorable vote of the members in good standing present and voting at a regular general membership meeting before such expenditure can be made.

**Section 715: Board of Trustees.** The Board of Trustees shall have sole responsibility for negotiating any indebtedness on behalf of the Detachment, but only after such proposal for indebtedness has been approved by a majority vote of the members at a general meeting which shall occur following written notification (newsletter or special letter) to every member in good standing.

**Section 720: Financial Review.** A committee appointed by the detachment commandant and approved by the detachment BOT shall conduct a semi-annual review of the detachment's financial records. The purpose of the review is to verify that appropriate fiscal procedures are being followed to include reviewing accounts, ledgers (handwritten or digital) indicating income and disbursements and transactions of the Detachment. The detachment judge advocate shall chair this committee. A report shall be made by the chair, signed by all committee members, and presented to the BOT and members of the detachment.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Uniforms**

**Section 800: Uniforms.** The basic uniform of the MCL is the unique cover that identifies the members of the MCL. Because all other parts of the uniform that are designated in this enclosure are optional, the cover remains as the only consistent identifier for MCL members, which is why the cover is worn indoors at appropriate MCL functions. When MCL members are wearing the appropriate cover, as listed below, they are considered in uniform. NO OTHER TYPE OF COVER MAY BE WORN AT A MARINE CORPS LEAGUE FUNCTION OR MEETING.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Amendments**

**Section 900: Detachment Bylaws Amendments.** The Detachment Bylaws may be revised, amended, or repealed by a majority vote of the members at a detachment meeting. The revision, amendment, or repeal shall be submitted to the Department Judge Advocate once approved by the general membership.

**Section 905: National and Department Bylaws.** In the event any issue arises and is not covered by these bylaws, the detachment shall seek the advice of the Department Judge Advocate. If the Department JA cannot rule on the issue, the detachment shall seek the ruling of the National Judge Advocate.

**Section 910: Distribution.**

- a. The current edition of the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment Bylaws with any published changes shall be posted on the Detachment website, or if no website is available sent by e-mail or USPS for access and review by all members of Detachment.
- b. Any member of the Detachment may request a printed copy of the Detachments Bylaws.
- c. Two copies of each revision of the Detachments Bylaws shall be delivered to the Department of Florida Judge Advocate for review and approval, IAW the DOF Bylaws [Section 205, d, (5)]

**Section 915: Clerical Errors.** The Board of Trustees shall have the authority to identify and correct clerical errors in the Detachment Bylaws where the error is clear, and the correction shall make no material change to the intent, form, or function of the bylaws.

**Section 920: Bylaws revision history.** Marine Corps League General Roy S. Geiger Detachment Bylaws will not have revision numbers. Instead, the Revision Date is used to identify the current edition of the Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Detachment Charter Suspensions, Revocation, Voluntary Surrender and Dissolution**

**Section 1000: Detachment Charter Suspension and Revocation**

(a). The charter for a detachment may be suspended or revoked for any of the failures or violations noted in NBL Article 9, Section 945. The suspension or revocation of a detachment charter may be initiated by the Department of Florida Board of Trustees and recommended to the Department of Florida Commandant to suspend a detachment's charter. This shall be done in accordance with the provisions of the NBL, NAP and Department of Florida Bylaws & Administrative Procedures in a manner considerate of the well-being and good name of all concerned.

B. The suspension or subsequent revocation will be governed, and the detachment shall abide by the provisions of the NBL, NAP and Department of Florida Bylaws and Administrative Procedures throughout the process.

C. Ceremonial rifles must be accounted for in accordance with NAP Chapter 6, Section 6045.

**Section 1005: Detachment Voluntary Surrender of Charter.**

- (a). The charter of a detachment may be voluntarily surrendered for such reasons as may be determined by the detachment. Upon a determination that it is no longer practical to maintain the detachment, the detachment board of trustees shall immediately notify the department in writing of its intent to dissolve and surrender its charter.
- (b). The detachment shall abide by each of the provisions and requirements of the NBL, NAP and Department of Florida Bylaws and Administrative Procedures throughout the process of voluntarily surrendering their charter. Of note in NAP Section 6050,” ... the detachment shall, to the extent assets are available, satisfy all legitimate liabilities of the detachment prior to voluntary surrender but shall not otherwise dissipate any assets of the detachment other than the normal course of business of the detachment”.
- (c). Ceremonial rifles must be properly returned in accordance with NAP Chapter 6 Section 6050.

**Section 1010: Dissolution.** The dissolution of the detachment, whether by revocation or voluntary surrender, will not be accepted or deemed effective until all provisions of the applicable National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures have been met.

- (a). The detachment properties and assets will be held by the department for a period of one (1) year or until a new detachment is formed. Should a new detachment be formed during that period, and the new detachment retains the old detachment name, the properties and assets will be returned.
- (b). After one (1) year, the properties and assets will revert to the department. The charter will be returned to National Headquarters and placed in the archives. All assets will then become the property of the Department.

*- End of bylaws*

**ENDORSEMENT: Department of Florida Judge Advocate's approval**

**CERTIFICATION:** I, Kathleen Potthoff, Judge Advocate, Department of Florida, Marine Corps League, have received subject Bylaws of the General Roy S. Geiger Detachment #1047, Marine Corps League, and as said Judge Advocate, hereby accept, approve, and certify said Bylaws on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024.



Kathleen Potthoff  
Judge Advocate  
Department of Florida

