

**FILED  
August  
2019**

**Current: June 2019 and forward–August 2019**



# **Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona Constitution and Bylaws**

**Double Tree Hotel Tucson Reid Park by Hilton  
Detachment Fall Conference  
Saturday, November 3, 2018**

**Dead Horse Ranch State Park, Cottonwood, AZ  
Detachment Camp Out  
Saturday, April 13, 2019**

**Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass  
Detachment Convention 2019  
Saturday, June 22, 2019**

**Approved Constitution and Bylaws  
JUNE 2019**

**Detachment of Arizona**

**Approved by Membership Vote at Detachment State Convention 2019, Saturday, 22  
June 2019 and**

**Ratified by The American Legion, Department of Arizona, Department Executive  
Board on Sunday 23 June 2019**

## **Originals Filed with signatures:**

Detachment Constitution and Bylaws Chairman, Jeff Frain, one signed original, November 2018  
Detachment Adjutant, Keith Birkemeyer, one signed original, June 2019  
Detachment files, Detachment HQ, two signed originals, June 2019  
Department Adjutant, Angel Juarez, one signed original, June 2019  
Department HQ, two signed originals, June 2019  
National SAL Adjutant, Anthony Wright, National Internal Affairs, Two signed originals and original PDF. July 2019  
Posted: Detachment Website  
Available for attachment to e-mailed request by membership of either the Legion or Sons upon "Official Written Request"

## *New Constitution and Bylaws Submitted by:*

*Sons of The American Legion; Detachment of Arizona; "Constitution and Bylaws Committee"*  
*Committee Chairman — Jeff Frain, PNC, Detachment Judge Advocate*  
*Committee Member — Rob Pederson, PDC*  
*Committee Member — Mike Talty, PDC*  
*Committee Member — Joseph Roberts, PDC*

Squadron Commanders:

Attached are the revised and updated bylaws, per the directive at the campout meeting, the bylaws committee has revised them to reflect those requests, and at the same time made spelling error corrections and removed out of date wording, removal of obsolete positions, position title changes, district reference, and communication formats.

Please review with your squadron members and if you have any questions, concerns, or corrections please submit them in form of an email to [salpncaz@cox.net](mailto:salpncaz@cox.net) for the bylaws committee to review no later than October 26, 2018.

The bylaws will be presented, once all submission for any corrections and/or updates are received, at fall conference to be voted on for approval.

Thank you,

Jeff Frain  
Resolutions and Bylaws Chairman  
[SALpncAZ@cox.net](mailto:SALpncAZ@cox.net)  
602-418-0508

**Please note:**

*The Original Constitution and Bylaws dated 2007 are included in the front of this booklet.*

*The list of changes is located in the Center of the booklet,*

*The proposed new Constitution and Bylaws under consideration is located in the back part of the Booklet.*

*Areas where the proposed Contitution and Bylaws have been changed are highlited in yellow.*

# The Sons Of The American Legion Detachment Of Arizona Constitution

## PREAMBLE

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage; We, male descendants of Veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of the American Legion" for the following purposes;

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain Law and Order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

## ARTICLE I NAME

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be, "The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona".
- Section 2. The Detachment Headquarters of the Detachment of Arizona shall be located at the same site as the Department of Arizona.

## ARTICLE II NATURE

Section 1. The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona is a civilian organization. Membership therein does

Section 2. The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona is a non-political, and shall not be eligible for the candidacy of any person or group seeking public office of preferment.

Section 3. The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, shall be absolutely non-sectarian.

Section 4. Each member shall perform his full duties as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding according to the Law, and not according to the dictates of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona.

## ARTICLE III ORGANIZATION

Section 1. Each Post of the American Legion shall sponsor no more than (1) squadron of the Sons of the American Legion. With the approval of the Department of Arizona, Squadrons sponsored by the Posts shall be organized into Areas, and a Detachment Organization as shall be in accordance with the Department guidelines, with regulations of the National Executive Committee of the American Legion, and with the National Constitution and by-laws of the Sons of the American Legion.

Section 2. The Sons of the American Legion shall be organized on a local basis, under a sponsoring Post, and shall bear the name of said sponsoring Post as follows; "Sons of the American Legion Squadron of Post # , Detachment of AZ".

Section 3. Detachment organization shall take jurisdiction over all Squadron, and Areas, within the geographical area, and within the guidelines set up by the Detachment of Arizona, as regulated by the Department of Arizona.

Section 4. The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, shall be regulated by such rules as prescribed by the National Executive Committee of the American Legion, and as such restrictions may be prescribed by the Department of Arizona.

**Superseded June 2019**

#### ARTICLE IV ELIGIBILITY

- Section 1. The Legislative Body of the Detachment of Arizona shall be the Detachment Convention, to be held annually in conjunction with the Department of Arizona American Legion. All acts of this Legislative body shall be subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion.
- Section 2. The Detachment Commander or his appointed representative shall issue a call to the Detachment Convention no less than (60) sixty days prior to such a Convention. This call shall be by letter, and publication in such as is available to the Detachment of Arizona.
- Section 3. Each Squadron shall be entitled to (1) one vote for their Squadron Charter, and (1) one vote for each (10) ten members, or major part thereof, as such membership is received by Detachment not less than (30) thirty days prior to such called Detachment Convention. Any Squadron must have a minimum of (10) ten paid members in order to be given a vote at the Detachment Convention. Such Squadrons as have not paid (10) ten memberships not less than (30) thirty days prior to the called Convention shall be ineligible to vote. Each Squadron shall be entitled to (1) one alternate for each delegate registered at said called Convention. A Registered delegate shall be one who has paid such fee as may be required, and has received his credentials. When a registration fee may be required and not paid by such delegate, then said delegate shall be ineligible to vote, and his Squadron shall forfeit the right to cast his vote. All delegates, and alternates, shall receive all privileges, if said registration fee as required is paid. The vote of all absent delegates shall be cast by their alternates, if insufficient numbers of alternates are present, then the majority of that delegation shall cast such votes as are absent and such number that that Squadron is entitled to.
- Section 4. Delegates from (5) five Squadrons shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 5. The Detachment Executive Committee shall determine if, and how much, of a fee shall be required for a registration fee, currently set at .10 cents per member rounded to the nearest dollar.
- Section 6. All Past-Detachment Commanders shall be delegates to the Detachment Convention, and shall have (1) Detachment Officers shall also be d to (1) one at-large vote, to be .rrently elected Detachment

**Superseded June 2019**

#### ARTICLE V DETACHMENT OFFICERS

- Section 1. The Detachment Convention shall elect a Detachment Commander and three Detachment Vice-Commanders, of equal rank. The Vice Commanders shall be elected according to Areas A, B, and C to conform with that of the Department of Arizona, further, that election shall include a National Executive Committeeman, an Alternate National Executive committeeman, (5) five Detachment Executive committeemen, and a Detachment Chaplain. If any position of an elected nature should have no candidate, then the newly elected Detachment Commander, with the approval of the Detachment Executive Committee, shall appoint such officers as required. All elected and appointed officers shall be approved of the Department Executive Committee.
- Section 2. The following officers shall be recommended for appointment by the Detachment Commander, and approved by the Detachment Executive Committee; Detachment Adjutant, Detachment Finance Officer, Detachment Sergeant at Arms, Detachment Judge Advocate and Detachment Historian.
- Section 3. All endorsements for the Detachment elected officers must be approved by the sponsoring Post Commander, and/or the sponsoring Post Adjutant. No nomination will be accepted from the floor of the Detachment Convention without the sponsoring Post endorsement. All such endorsements shall be sent to the chairman of the nominating committee, and/or the Detachment Adjutant no later than (30) thirty days prior to Detachment Convention, excepting those offered from the Convention floor, with the proper endorsement from the sponsoring post. No nomination will be accepted without said endorsement.

Section 4. All elected officers, will be installed at a joint installation with the American Legion on the closing day of the Department Convention. No officer, shall be considered as installed until approved by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion. This joint installation shall be considered part of the called Detachment Convention and a requirement of the office for all Detachment officers, to serve that year.

## ARTICLE VI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Section 1. Any member of the Detachment Executive Committee, including the Detachment Commander, may be removed from office by a simple majority vote of said Detachment Executive Committee present for such offenses as non-performance of duties, or non-attendance of called Detachment meetings, or such other offenses as may be deemed removable by the Detachment Executive Committee or the Detachment Commander, and approved by a simple majority of the Detachment Executive Committee present and be ratified by Detachment membership at the next membership meeting.
- Section 2. The Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona shall recognize such individuals designated by the Department Commander of the American Legion, Department of Arizona, as the Department Advisor(s), and said designated of the Detachment Organization. Such person(s) shall serve as advisor(s) only, and shall have no voting power unless he is a member of the Sons of the American Legion, and appointed to such Committee or Commission by the Detachment Commander. The Department advisor shall be budgeted \$250.00 from Detachment funds and shall draw such funds by travel voucher, or submission of a phone bill.
- Section 3. The Department Commander and the Department Adjutant shall also serve as ex-officio members of all Detachment Committees and Commissions as advisors to the Detachment Organization, if that is their wish.
- Section 4. Between Detachment meetings, the administrative power of the Detachment shall be vested in the Detachment Executive Committeemen for the current year.
- Section 5. All Past Detachment Commanders shall be members of the Detachment Executive Committee with (1) one vote.

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**Superseded June 2019**

ected and appointed, shall  
Executive Committee of the  
num of (6) six progress reports  
must be submitted, no less than every (60) sixty days by all elected Detachment Officers, to the Detachment Commander and/or the Detachment Adjutant.

## ARTICLE VII DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Section 1. The Detachment Executive Committee shall meet annually during the Detachment Convention and the Detachment fall conference, the Detachment Campout, and at such times as the Commander, or majority of its members may direct.
- Section 2. The Detachment Executive Committee shall meet just prior to each Detachment Convention to consider any resolutions, or business of an Executive nature just prior to each Detachment Convention, and shall meet following the Detachment Convention to approve all Appointments by the newly elected Commander. Actions of the Detachment Executive Committee shall be subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion.
- Section 3. The Detachment Executive Committee may transact such urgent business by mail that will not wait until a called Detachment Convention or called Detachment Executive Committee meeting. (30) Thirty days shall be allowed for mail transmittal of ballots, and/or telephone calls, and/or telegrams, to the Detachment Adjutant of the votes thereon. The Detachment Adjutant shall notify the Detachment Commander of the results of the vote taken, with the verification of such Detachment Executive Committee members designated by the Detachment Commander. The Detachment Executive Committee shall also meet at the call of the Detachment Commander or on the written request of (3) three Squadrons, at any time during that year for sufficient reasons to it appearing, and as shall be called by the Department Commander of the American Legion.

## ARTICLE VIII DETACHMENT ORGANIZATION

- Section 1. The Detachment of Arizona Sons of the American Legion shall conform to all geographic restrictions set up by the Department of Arizona American Legion, and shall in no way conflict with said geographic restrictions.
- Section 2. The Detachment of Arizona shall conform to the limitations set up by the Department of Arizona American Legion. Such other elected officers of intermediary groups, such as Areas shall also conform to those limitations. Such intermediary groups as Areas, shall act as liaison between the Detachment organization, and the Squadrons, for the purposes of promoting the programs of the Sons of the American Legion.
- Section 3. The Detachment Executive Committee shall define such powers as these intermediary groups may be given, but no intermediary group shall attempt to determine policy of any Squadron, nor in the Detachment organization.
- Section 4. Such intermediary groups as Areas shall be subordinate to the Detachment Executive Committee and shall function only so long as there are (3) three Squadrons active in said Area. (3) three Area Vice Commanders, shall be elected at the Detachment Convention by the entire Detachment sitting in a called Convention, or by appointment of the Detachment Commander as earlier stated, ties to be broken according to Robert's Rules of Order. The Commander shall vote according to Robert's Rules of Order.

## ARTICLE IX SQUADRON ORGANIZATION

- Section 1. Those who desire to form a Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion shall make application for a charter to the Post Commander of their local post in the area in which they reside. Upon approval of the Post Commander, the application shall be forwarded to the Department Commander of the Arizona American Legion, and upon his/her approval, shall be forwarded to the National Headquarters of the American Legion, where the Charter may be issued by the National Commander and the National Adjutant of the American Legion in the same manner prescribed for the issuance of Charters for post of the American Legion. Such

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- Section 2. The minimum number of members of the American Legion shall be (10) ten new members.
- Section 3. If any Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion shall remain inactive for a period of (2) two years, with less than the minimum of (10) ten members paid, then at the discretion of the Detachment Executive Committee the Detachment Commander shall order said charter pulled, and their active membership shall be canceled, and any paid members transferred to the headquarters squadron. Non-submission of officer's reports, and/or quarterly progress reports shall be considered as being a non-active squadron and may result in loss of squadron charter by action of the Detachment Executive Committee.
- Section 4. There shall be no more than (1) one Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion in any post. Squadrons may be organized into sections according to age, but all sections must be active, and have equal rights.
- Section 5. Squadron Officers of the Sons of the American Legion shall consist of a Commander, Vice Commander(s), Adjutant, Finance Officer, Chaplain, Sergeant at Arms, Historian, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary. The Squadron First Vice Commander is to function as the Membership Chairman. Such officers will not be recognized by Detachment Headquarters, unless an officers report is submitted on a yearly basis with (30) thirty days of Detachment Convention.

- Section 6. Squadron Officers shall be elected annually, and should conform to the dates selected by the sponsoring Post of the American Legion, as closely as possible. Squadron Officers elected shall be subject to the approval of the sponsoring Post of the American Legion. If a squadron is temporarily inactive, a Commander, and an Adjutant may be appointed by the sponsoring Post Commander, provided such appointees are members of the Sons of the American Legion, and such appointments are reported to Detachment Headquarters, in compliance with the requirements of the Detachment Officers report.
- Section 7. Squadron meetings shall be held no less than monthly in accordance with the ritual of the organization, and Squadrons shall follow the requirements of the Squadron activities handbook, provided by Detachment Headquarters.

## ARTICLE X FINANCE

- Section 1. The revenue of the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona, shall be from annual dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion, or the person(s) as may be designated by the Department Commander of the American Legion.
- Section 2. The amount of such annual dues shall be \$8.00; Detachment and \$2.00 National per capita dues, and shall be payable commencing July 1st, of each year. Such funds shall be transmitted to the officer charged with the custody of Detachment funds and shall be held separately from other funds of such Department. Any member not having paid his current years dues by December 31st, of said year, shall be considered in a delinquent status and shall lose all such privileges as voting, etc.
- Section 3. The amount of such annual Squadron dues shall be determined by the individual Squadrons, with the approval of host post.
- Section 4. The annual National per capita dues shall be collected by each Squadron and transmitted throughout the Detachment Headquarters of the American Legion in which the Squadron is geographically located, and thence to the National Treasurer of the American Legion.

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- Section 1. The Detachment Executive Committee, may suspend, cancel, or revoke the Charter of any Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion over which it has jurisdiction, in the event it violates the provisions of this Detachment Constitution, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion Department in which said Squadron and Detachment are geographically located.
- Section 2. The cancellation or revocation of any Squadron Charter shall require the 2/3rds vote of the Detachment Executive Committee, and the approval of the American Legion Department Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE XII AMMENDMENTS

- Section 1. This constitution may be amended at any Detachment Convention by the Affirmative vote of (2/3) two-thirds of the registered delegates there-at; subject to the ratification of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion, wherein the Detachment is geographically located.
- Section 2. Such amendments as may be enacted by a (2/3) two-thirds vote of the registered delegates at any Detachment Convention shall take effect immediately following the close of business of that current Detachment Convention, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion, wherein the Detachment is geographically located.

## Detachment By-Laws Detachment Of Arizona

### ARTICLE I DUTIES OF DETACHMENT OFFICERS

- Section 1. **COMMANDER:** The Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander is the executive head of the organization at his level, with full power to carry out the mandates and policies of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, as approved by the Executive Committee of The American Legion, Department of Arizona. He shall perform such duties as are usually incident to the office. He shall also act as the Chairman of the Detachment Executive Committee.
- Section 2. **VICE COMMANDERS:** The Vice-Commanders, shall act as the representatives of the Detachment Commander on all matters referred to them, and shall, on his request, preside over meetings and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. The primary function of the Vice-Commanders is to act as liaison between the Detachment Commander and such other intermediated groups as may be prescribed by the Detachment Constitution. The function of the Vice-Commanders is also to accept responsibility of membership in his area, and to assist the Detachment Commander in the programs of The Sons of the American Legion. He shall make progress reports to Detachment Headquarters at least every (60) sixty days, to the Detachment Commander and/or the Detachment Adjutant, or be subject to disciplinary action.
- Section 3. **ADJUTANT OFFICER:** The Adjutant who corresponds to the secretary of an organization, shall be charged with the usual duties of an adjutant or secretary. He is the administrative officer of the policies and mandates of the organization. He will also be charged with the approval and supervision, of the Detachment of Arizona, Executive Committee.
- Section 4. **FINANCE OFFICER:** The Finance Officer shall make reports on the condition of the treasury at each regular meeting, and when called for by the Detachment Commander, or the Executive Committee of the Detachment, for the payment of outstanding debts, and an annual report on the performance of his or her duties as are usually incident to the office.
- Section 5. **SENTINEL:** The Sentinel shall be charged with responsibility of preserving order at all Detachment meetings and shall be given the custody and responsibility of the colors of the Detachment, when they are not in the custody of the Detachment Commander. He shall assist the Detachment Commander at all installations, and initiations, and such other functions of the Detachment as the Detachment Commander shall deem necessary, and are incident to his office.
- Section 6. **CHAPLAIN:** The Chaplain shall perform such divine nonsectarian service as shall be necessary adhering to the ceremonial rituals as may be prescribed.
- Section 7. **HISTORIAN:** The Historian shall collect from year to year all records and data of value and interest to the Sons of the American Legion, Department of Arizona, and shall compile during his term of office a complete bound history of the years activities, to be presented to the outgoing Detachment Commander on completion of his term.
- Section 8. **JUDGE ADVOCATE:** The Judge Advocate shall be the arbiter of all disputes concerning this Constitution and by-laws, and shall only be overruled by a (2/3rds) two-thirds, plus (1) one vote of the body in session. He shall be charged with the maintenance, and updating of this Constitution and by-laws.
- Section 9. All Officers of the Sons of the American Legion in the performance of their duties shall be governed by The American Legion at the appropriate level. All actions of The Sons of the American Legion at the Squadron, intermediate, area, and Detachment Level shall be subject to review and approval at the appropriate level of The American Legion.

**Superseded June 2019**

## ARTICLE II SQUADRON & AREA/DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

Section 1. Each Squadron, Area/Detachment must adopt a constitution and by-laws, with the approval of the next highest level in this Detachment. The Squadron, Area/Detachment Constitution and by-laws shall be adopted with the approval of the appropriate level of the American Legion, and there shall be no conflict with the National, or Department constitution and by-laws, on any level. Squadrons, and Area/Detachment not having a constitution and by-laws approved by the Department Executive Committee, shall not be recognized at Detachment Convention, and may offer no nominations for Detachment Officers, elected or appointed.

## ARTICLE III EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Constitution of any Squadron, Area/Detachment, may create an Executive Committee, and their powers and composition shall be stated in this Detachment Constitution and by-laws, and may not exceed or conflict with said document.

## ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Membership in The Sons of the American Legion is membership in the Detachment, and National organization of The Sons of the American Legion by affiliation with a Squadron.

Section 2. Each Squadron shall be the judge of its own membership, but subject to the restrictions and qualifications of this Constitution and By-laws.

Section 3. Members may be suspended or expelled under the same provisions for suspension or expulsion of a member of The American Legion.

# Superseded June 2019

Section 1. Any member not having current years membership dues paid on/by December 31, of the current year, shall be considered delinquent. Any member not having current years dues paid by December 31, of that year shall automatically be suspended from all privileges, and failure to pay current years dues by July 1, of the next year shall cause forfeiture of membership in The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona. Any Delinquent or suspended member may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by a majority vote of his Squadron upon payment of all dues in arrears, plus payment of the current years dues. Any member whose membership has been forfeited for non-payment of dues for (1) one year may be reinstated by a majority vote of the Squadron upon payment of (1) one years dues in arrears in addition to the current years membership dues.

Section 2. Any member not having current years membership dues paid on/by December 31, of the current year, shall be considered delinquent. Any member not having current years dues paid by December 31, of that year shall automatically be suspended from all privileges, and failure to pay current years dues by July 1, of the next year shall cause forfeiture of membership in The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona. Any Delinquent or suspended member may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by a majority vote of his Squadron upon payment of all dues in arrears, plus payment of the current years dues. Any member whose membership has been forfeited for non-payment of dues for (1) one year may be reinstated by a majority vote of the Squadron upon payment of (1) one years dues in arrears in addition to the current years membership dues.

## ARTICLE VI EXPENSES

Section 1. All Detachment expenses over \$250 must be approved at a regularly scheduled Detachment Meeting, by a majority, on a roll call vote of all Squadrons in attendance.

**ARTICLE VII  
AMMENDMENTS**

Existing Constitution & Bylaws (2007 Convention)

Section 1. These By-laws may be amended by any Detachment Convention by the (2/3rds) two-thirds vote of the registered delegates thereat, and are subject to the ratification of the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, wherein the Detachment is geographically located.

Section 2. Such amendments as may be enacted by a (2/3rds) two-thirds vote of the registered delegates at any Detachment Convention shall take effect immediately following the close of business of that current Detachment Convention, subject to the approval from the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, wherein the Detachment is geographically located.

Section 3. No amendments to, or current contents of this By-laws shall be in conflict with either Department, or National American Legion policy, or The Sons of The American Legion National Organization.

This constitution is recommended for ratification by the By-laws committee to the membership to the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona.

By-law committee:

April 6, 2007

Steve Blank

W.L. Foster

Jim Ashley

Thomas Baxstrom

Approved: June 19, 2007

Amended: June 21, 2008

Detachment Commander

Detachment Adviser

Detachment Judge Advocate

Department Adviser

**Superseded June 2019**

Approved change to add

veterans, and

descendants of

Whereas:

The Detachment of Arizona, seeking to expand the opportunities for more individuals to serve as members of the Detachment Executive Committee, now therefore be it,

Resolved:

By Squadron 117, The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona in regular session assembled in Tucson, Arizona on June 21, 2008, that there shall not be more than one member from any given Squadron elected to the five member Executive Committee; and be it

Further Resolved:

That there shall not be more than one member from any given Squadron serving on the Finance Committee; and be it

Finally Resolved:

That his Resolution shall take effect with the close of business of the 2007- 2008 Detachment of Arizona Convention held on June 21, 2008 in Tucson Arizona.

Submitted and Approved by, Steve Allen (s) Commander Squadron 117

New Fee Structure Adopted

**Voting Per Capita Changes**

Voting fees set for "per capita" fees due prior to voting at Detachment Convention:

If your Squadron has:

100 members or less, your fee is: \$6.00

\$1.00 for the charter and \$5.00 for membership, totaling \$6.00;

101 members or more but less than 501 members, your fee is: \$11.00

\$1.00 for the charter and \$10.00 for membership, totaling \$11.00;

501 members or more but less than 1001 members, your fee is: \$16.00

\$1.00 for the charter and \$15.00 for membership, totaling \$16.00

Approved during Executive Board meeting by vote prior to Convention General Meeting 2013 and approved by unanimous vote during Convention General Meeting.

Resolution 2

Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona Detachment Convention 2014 Carefree, Arizona June 28, 2014

Resolution Title:

Memorial Day Ceremony Participation by the Sons of The American Legion at National Cemeteries in Arizona.

Origin(s):

Earl E. Mitchel Squadron 29 of Glendale, Arizona, on April 24, 2014 at a regular General Meeting, and concurrently by

Irving B. Selmer Squadron 107 of Phoenix, Arizona, on May 12, 2014 at a regular General Meeting.

Submitted by: Earl E. Mitchell Squadron 29 Glendale, in conjunction with Irving B. Selmer Squadron 107 Phoenix.

WHEREAS, The Preamble of The Sons of The American Legion states: "to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars"; and

WHEREAS, We, the Sons of The American Legion, "must remember S.A.L.'s mission: to strengthen the four pillars of The American Legion"; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with The Four Pillars, we as Sons of The American Legion continue to honor and remember the men and women who died while serving; and

WHEREAS, The Sons of The American Legion remember and honor the service of our Veterans every day, a special day of remembering is designated "Memorial Day" on the final Monday of May; and

WHEREAS, A ceremony is held at the Arizona National Cemetery and the Prescott National Cemetery in recognition of the Veterans service and as a remembrance of their passing during military service with honor; and

WHEREAS, These Veterans are interred in a National Cemetery reserved for those so honored; and

WHEREAS, The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, continue to serve and honor our Veterans and their service to our County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Detachment of Arizona, in keeping with the purpose of the Sons of The American Legion, shall participate in said ceremony and lay a wreath to honor and to remember those service personnel qualified to find this cemetery their place of everlasting peace; and, be it further

RESOLVED, The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, shall place into its annual budget the amount of funds necessary to obtain and maintain a wreath or wreaths suited to the purpose; and, be it further

RESOLVED, The Detachment Commander of Arizona shall designate one or more volunteers from the membership of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, to be designated as a

they become designated as a

Legion, Department of Arizona shall in Carefree, Arizona; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona shall be represented at all Memorial Day ceremonies held at all Veterans Administration National Cemeteries in the State of Arizona.

Resolution approved during regular Meeting of Detachment Convention 2014

Approved change to add

**Superseded June 2019**

## **The committee discussed and agreed to make the following updates to the Detachment Constitution and By-Laws:**

### **Constitution Changes**

#### **Article IV, Title**

*Updated Article title name*

#### **Article IV, Section 5**

*New per-capita fee structure inserted*

#### **Article V, Section 3**

*“All endorsements for the Detachment elected officers must be approved by the sponsoring Post Commander, and/or the sponsoring Post Adjutant.*

*Replaced with:*

*“The sponsoring Post Commander, and/or the sponsoring Post Adjutant must approve all endorsements for the Detachment elected officers.”*

#### **Article VI, Section 2**

*Position title changed from advisor to liaison*

*Remove last sentence of “The Department advisor shall be budgeted \$250.00 from Detachment funds and shall draw such funds by travel voucher, or submission of a phone bill.”*

#### **Article VI, Section 6**

*“A minimum of (6) six progress reports must be submitted, no less than every (60) sixty days by all elected Detachment Officers, to the Detachment Commander and/or the Detachment Adjutant.”*

*(Reword last sentence)*

*“Three (3) progress reports plus a convention report must be submitted, no less than every (90) ninety days by all elected Detachment Officers, to the Detachment Commander and/or the Detachment Adjutant.”*

#### **Article VII, Section 3**

*“The Detachment Executive Committee may transact such urgent business by mail that will not wait until a called Detachment Convention or called Detachment Executive Committee meeting. (30) Thirty days shall be allowed for mail transmittal of ballots, and/or telephone calls, and/or telegrams, to the Detachment Adjutant of the votes thereon.”*

*(Replace with)*

*“The Detachment Executive Committee may transact such urgent business by E-mail or phone that will not wait until a called Detachment Convention or called Detachment Executive Committee meeting. Thirty, (30) days shall be allowed for E-mail, and/or telephone calls to the Detachment Adjutant of the votes thereon.”*

#### **Article VII, Section 4**

*Compliance with Resolution 1 added section 6: “There shall not be more than one member from any given Squadron elected to the five members Executive Committee.”*

#### **Article IX, Section 3**

*Update first sentence*

*“If any Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion shall remain inactive for a period of (2) two years, with less than the minimum of (10) ten members paid, then at the discretion of the Detachment Executive Committee the Detachment Commander shall order said charter pulled,”*

*Replaced with*

*“If any Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion shall remain inactive for a period of (1) one year, with less than the minimum of (10) ten members paid, then at the discretion of the Detachment Executive Committee the Detachment Commander shall order said charter suspended,”*

#### **Article IX, Section 5**

*“Such officers will not be recognized by Detachment Headquarters, unless an officers report is submitted on a yearly basis with (30) thirty days of Detachment Convention.”*

*Reworded sentence structure*

*“Detachment Headquarters will not recognize such officers, unless an officer’s report is submitted on a yearly basis with in (30)thirty days of Detachment Convention.”*

#### **Article IX, Section 6**

*Added “form” to end of sentence.*

#### **Article IX, Section 8**

*Added Section to adjust to protocols established by home Post or Squadron and their bylaws: “The guideline is recommendation to be followed unless Post and Squadron bylaws state otherwise.”*

#### **Article X, Section 3**

*“The individual Squadrons, with the approval of host post, shall determine the amount of such annual Squadron dues.”*

#### **Article IX, Section 5**

*Compliance with Resolution 1 added section 5: “There shall not be more than (1) one member from any given Squadron serving on the Finance Committee.”*

#### **Article XII, Section 1**

*“is geographically located.” was removed.*

## Bylaws Changes

### Article I, Section 1, b

*Added Section 1b and updated with Resolution 2 to read: "The Detachment Commander shall attend, or shall designate another member to participate in as his official designee, Memorial Day ceremonies at all Arizona-based National Cemetery remembrances."*

### Article I, Section 3

*Removed sentence: "He will also be charged with the approval and supervision, of the Detachment of Arizona, Executive Committee."*

### Article I, Section 9

*"All Officers of the Sons of the American Legion in the performance of their duties shall be governed by The American Legion at the appropriate level."*

*Replaced with*

*"The American Legion at the appropriate level shall govern all Officers of the Sons of the American Legion in the performance of their duties."*

### Article II, Section 1

*Article title "Squadron & Area/Detachment Constitution & By-Laws"*

*Title renamed to:*

*"Squadron & Detachment Constitution & By-Laws"*

### Article II, Section 1

*"Each Squadron, Area/Detachment must adopt a constitution and by-laws, with the approval of the next highest level in this Detachment."*

*Replaced by*

*"Each Squadron must adopt a constitution and by-laws, with the approval of the sponsoring Post. The Squadron"*

### Article II, Section 1

*"Squadrons, and Area/Detachment not having a constitution and by-laws approved by the Department Executive Committee, shall not be recognized at Detachment Convention, an may offer no nominations for Detachment Officers, elected or appointed."*

*Replaced with*

*"Squadrons not having a constitution and by-laws approved by the sponsoring Post, Detachment and Department Executive Committee, shall not be recognized at Detachment Convention, and may offer no nominations for Detachment Officers, elected or appointed."*

### Article III, Section 1

*Area/Detachment*

*Replaced with:*

*Squadron, Detachment*

### Article VI, Section 1

*Dollar amount changed from \$250.00 to \$750.*

**End of Changes to Constitution & Bylaws**

# The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona Constitution

## PREAMBLE

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage; We, male descendants of Veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as “Sons of the American Legion” for the following purposes; To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain Law and Order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

## ARTICLE I NAME

### **Section 1.**

The name of this organization shall be, “The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona”.

### **Section 2.**

The Detachment Headquarters of the Detachment of Arizona shall be located at the same site as the Department of Arizona.

## ARTICLE II NATURE

### **Section 1.**

The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona is a civilian organization. Membership therein does not effect, nor increase liability for military, or police service.

### **Section 2.**

The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, shall be absolutely non-political, and shall not be used neither for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for promotion of the candidacy of any person or group seeking public office of preferment.

### **Section 3.**

The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, shall be absolutely non-sectarian.

### **Section 4.**

Each member shall perform his full duties as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding according to the Law, and not according to the dictates of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona.

## ARTICLE III ORGANIZATION

### **Section 1.**

Each Post of the American Legion shall sponsor no more than (1) squadron of the Sons of the American Legion. With the approval of the Department of Arizona, Squadrons sponsored by the Posts shall be organized into Areas, and a Detachment organization, as shall be in accordance with the Department guidelines, with regulations of the National Executive Committee of the American Legion, and with the National Constitution and by-laws of the Sons of the American Legion.

**Section 2.**

The Sons of the American Legion shall be organized on a local basis, under a sponsoring Post, and shall bear the name of said sponsoring Post as follows; “Sons of the American Legion Squadron of Post #, Detachment of AZ”.

**Section 3.**

Detachment organization shall take jurisdiction over all Squadron, and Areas, within the geographical area, and within the guidelines set up by the Detachment of Arizona, as regulated by the Department of Arizona.

**Section 4.**

The Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, shall be regulated by such rules as prescribed by the National Executive Committee of the American Legion, and as such restrictions may be prescribed by the a Department of Arizona.

ARTICLE IV  
VOTING ELIGIBILITY

**Section 1.**

The Legislative Body of the Detachment of Arizona shall be the Detachment Convention, to be held annually in conjunction with the Department of Arizona American Legion. All acts of this Legislative body shall be subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion.

**Section 2.**

The Detachment Commander or his appointed representative shall issue a call to the Detachment Convention no less than (60) sixty days prior to such a Convention. This call shall be by letter, and publication in such as is available to the Detachment of Arizona.

**Section 3.**

Each Squadron shall be entitled to (1) one vote for their Squadron Charter, and (1) one vote for each (10) ten members, or major part thereof, as such membership is received by Detachment not less than (30) thirty days prior to such called Detachment Convention. Any Squadron must have a minimum of (10) ten paid members in order to be given a vote at the Detachment Convention. Squadrons that have not paid their (10) ten memberships, not less than (30) thirty days prior to the called Convention, shall be ineligible to vote. Each Squadron shall be entitled to (1) one alternate for each delegate registered at said called Convention. A Registered delegate shall be one who has paid such fee as may be required, and has received his credentials When a registration fee may be required and not paid by such delegate, then said delegate shall be ineligible to vote, and his Squadron shall forfeit the right to cast his vote. All delegates, and alternates, shall receive all privileges, if said registration fee as required is paid. The vote of all absent delegates shall be cast by their alternates, if insufficient numbers of alternates are present, then the majority of that delegation shall cast such votes as are absent and such number that that Squadron is entitled to.

**Section 4.**

Delegates from (5) five Squadrons shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 5.**

The Detachment Executive Committee shall determine if, and how much, of a fee shall be required for registration fee,

**Currently Voting Per Capita**

Voting fees set for “per capita” fees due prior to voting at Detachment Convention:

If you’re Squadron has:

100 members or less, your fee is: \$6.00

\$1.00 for the charter and \$5.00 for membership, totaling \$6.00;

101 members or more but less than 501 members, your fee is: \$11.00

\$1.00 for the charter and \$10.00 for membership, totaling \$11.00;

501 members or more but less than 1001 members, your fee is: \$16.00

\$1.00 for the charter and \$15.00 for membership, totaling \$16.00.

**Section 6.**

All Past-Detachment Commanders shall be delegates to the Detachment Convention, and shall have (1) one at-large vote, to be cast with their respective Squadrons. The elected Detachment Officers shall also be automatic delegates to the Detachment Convention, and shall also be entitled to (1) one at-large vote, to be cast with their respective Squadrons. No Past Detachment Commander, or currently elected Detachment Officer shall cast more than (1) one at-large vote.

ARTICLE V  
DETACHMENT OFFICERS

**Section 1.**

The Detachment Convention shall elect a Detachment Commander and three Detachment Vice-Commanders, of equal rank. The Vice Commanders shall be elected according to Areas A, B, and C to conform with that of the Department of Arizona, further, that election shall include a National Executive Committeeman, an Alternate National Executive committeeman, (5) five Detachment Executive committeemen, and a Detachment Chaplain. If any position of an elected nature should have no candidate, then the newly elected Detachment Commander, with the approval of the Detachment Executive Committee, shall appoint such officers as required. All elected and appointed officers shall be approved of the Department Executive Committee.

**Section 2.**

The following officers shall be recommended for appointment by the Detachment Commander, and approved by the Detachment Executive Committee; Detachment Adjutant, Detachment Finance Officer, Detachment Sergeant at Arms, Detachment Judge Advocate and Detachment Historian.

**Section 3.**

The sponsoring Post Commander, and/or the sponsoring Post Adjutant must approve all endorsements for the Detachment elected officers. No nomination will be accepted from the floor of the Detachment Convention without the sponsoring Post endorsement. All such endorsements shall be sent to the chairman of the nominating committee, and/or the Detachment Adjutant no later than (30) thirty days prior to Detachment Convention, excepting those offered from the Convention floor, with the proper endorsement from the sponsoring post. No nomination will be accepted without said endorsement.

**Section 4.**

All elected officers, will be installed at a joint installation with the American Legion on the closing day of the Department Convention. No officer shall be considered as installed until approved by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion. This joint installation shall be considered part of the called Detachment Convention and a requirement of the office for all Detachment officers, to serve that year.

ARTICLE VI  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Section 1.**

Any member of the Detachment Executive Committee, including the Detachment Commander, may be removed from office by a simple majority vote of said Detachment Executive Committee present for such offenses as non-performance of duties, or non-attendance of called Detachment meetings, or such other offenses as may be deemed removable by the Detachment Executive Committee or the Detachment Commander, and approved by a simple majority of the Detachment Executive Committee present and be ratified by Detachment membership at the next membership meeting.

**Section 2.**

The Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona shall recognize such individuals designated by the Department Commander of the American Legion, Department of Arizona, as the Department liaison, and said designated of the Detachment Organization. Such person(s) shall serve as liaison only, and shall have no voting privilege unless he is a member of the Sons of the American Legion, and appointed to such Committee or Commission by the Detachment Commander.

**Section 3.**

The Department Commander and the Department Adjutant shall also serve as ex-officio members of all Detachment Committees and Commissions as advisors to the Detachment Organization, if that is their wish.

**Section 4.**

Between Detachment meetings, the administrative power of the Detachment shall be vested in the Detachment Executive Committeemen for the current year.

**Section 5.**

All Past Detachment Commanders shall be members of the Detachment Executive Committee with (1) one vote.

**Section 6.**

In fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, and the Detachment Officers, elected and appointed, shall be responsible to the Detachment Executive Committee, to the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion, or to such subordinate body by them designated. Three (3) progress reports plus a convention report must be submitted, no less than every (90) ninety days by all elected Detachment Officers, to the Detachment Commander and/or the Detachment Adjutant.

ARTICLE VII  
DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Section 1.**

The Detachment Executive Committee shall meet annually during the Detachment Convention and the Detachment Fall Conference, the Detachment Campout, and at such times as the Commander, or majority of its members may direct.

**Section 2.**

The Detachment Executive Committee shall meet just prior to each Detachment Convention to consider any resolutions, or business of an Executive nature just prior to each Detachment Convention, and shall meet following the Detachment Convention to approve all Appointments by the newly elected Commander. Actions of the Detachment Executive Committee shall be subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion.

**Section 3.**

The Detachment Executive Committee may transact such urgent business by E-mail or phone that will not wait until a called Detachment Convention or called Detachment Executive Committee meeting. Thirty, (30) days shall be allowed for E-mail, and/or telephone calls to the Detachment Adjutant of the votes thereon. The Detachment Adjutant shall notify the Detachment Commander of the results of the vote taken, with the verification of such Detachment Executive Committee members designated by the Detachment Commander. The Detachment Executive Committee shall also meet at the call of the Detachment Commander or on the written request of (3) three Squadrons, at any time during that year for sufficient reasons to it appearing, and as shall be called by the Department Commander of the American Legion.

**Section 4.**

There shall not be more than one member from any given Squadron elected to the five members Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII  
DETACHMENT ORGANIZATION

**Section 1.**

The Detachment of Arizona Sons of the American Legion shall conform to all geographic restrictions set up by the Department of Arizona American Legion, and shall in no way conflict with said geographic restrictions.

**Section 2.**

The Detachment of Arizona shall conform to the limitations set up by the Department of Arizona American Legion. Such other elected officers of intermediary groups, such as Areas shall also conform to those limitations. Such intermediary groups as Areas, shall act as liaison between the Detachment organization, and the Squadrons, for the purposes of promoting the programs of the Sons of the American Legion.

**Section 3.**

The Detachment Executive Committee shall define such powers as these intermediary groups may be given, but no intermediary group shall attempt to determine policy of any Squadron, nor in the Detachment organization.

**Section 4.**

Such intermediary groups as Areas shall be subordinate to the Detachment Executive Committee and shall function only so long as there are (3) three Squadrons active in said Area. (3) Three Area Vice Commanders, shall be elected at the Detachment Convention by the entire Detachment sitting in a called Convention, or by appointment of the Detachment Commander as earlier stated, ties to be broken according to Robert's Rules of Order. The Commander shall vote according to Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE IX  
SQUADRON ORGANIZATION

**Section 1.**

Those who desire to form a Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion shall make application for a charter to the Post Commander of their local post in the area in which they reside. Upon approval of the Post Commander, the application shall be forwarded to the Department Commander of the Arizona American Legion, and upon his/her approval, shall be forwarded to the National Headquarters of the American Legion, where the Charter may be issued by the National Commander and the National Adjutant of the American Legion in the same manner prescribed for the issuance of Charters for post of the American Legion. Such new Squadrons will not be recognized by the Detachment until elections shall be held and officer's reports submitted to the Detachment Headquarters.

**Section 2.**

The minimum membership for the formation of a Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion shall be (10) ten new members.

**Section 3.**

If any Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion shall remain inactive for a period of (1) one year, with less than the minimum of (10) ten members paid, then at the discretion of the Detachment Executive Committee the Detachment Commander shall order said charter **suspended**, and their active membership shall be canceled, and any paid members transferred to the headquarters squadron. Non-submission of officer's reports, and/or quarterly progress reports shall be considered as being a non-active squadron and may result in loss of squadron charter by action of the Detachment Executive Committee.

**Section 4.**

There shall be no more than (1) one Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion in any post. Squadrons may be organized into sections according to age, but all sections must be active, and have equal rights.

**Section 5.**

Squadron Officers of the Sons of the American Legion shall consist of a Commander, Vice Commander(s), Adjutant, Finance Officer, Chaplain, Sergeant at Arms, Historian, and such other officers as may be deemed necessary. The Squadron First Vice Commander is to function as the Membership Chairman. **Detachment** Headquarters will not recognize such officers, unless an officer's report is submitted on a yearly basis with in (30) thirty days of Detachment Convention.

**Section 6.**

Squadron Officers shall be elected annually, and should conform to the dates selected by the sponsoring Post of the American Legion, as closely as possible. Squadron Officers elected shall be subject to the approval of the sponsoring Post of the American Legion. If a squadron is temporarily inactive, a Squadron Commander, and an Adjutant may be appointed by the sponsoring Post Commander, provided such appointees are members of the Sons of the American Legion, and such appointments are reported to Detachment Headquarters, in compliance with the requirements of the Detachment Officers report **form**.

**Section 7.**

Squadron meetings shall be held no less than monthly in accordance with the ritual of the organization, and Squadrons shall follow the requirements of the Squadron activities handbook, provided by Detachment Headquarters.

**Section 8.**

The guideline is recommendation to be followed unless Post and Squadron bylaws state otherwise.

ARTICLE X  
FINANCE

**Section 1.**

The revenue of the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona, shall be from annual dues and from such other sources as may be approved by the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion, or the person(s) as may be designated by the Department Commander of the American Legion.

**Section 2.**

The amount of such annual dues shall be \$8.00 for Detachment and \$2.00 for National per capita dues, and shall be payable commencing July 1st, of each year. Such funds shall be transmitted to the officer charged with the custody of Detachment funds and shall be held separately from other funds of such Department. Any member not having paid his current years dues by December 31st, of said year, shall be considered in a delinquent status and shall lose all such privileges as voting, etc.

**Section 3.**

The individual Squadrons, with the approval of host post, shall determine the amount of such annual Squadron dues.

**Section 4.**

The annual National per capita dues shall be collected by each Squadron and transmitted throughout the Detachment Headquarters of the American Legion in which the Squadron is geographically located, and thence to the National Treasurer of the American Legion.

**Section 5.**

There shall not be more than (1) one member from any given Squadron serving on the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE XI  
DISCIPLINE

**Section 1.**

The Detachment Commander, in conjunction with the approval of the Detachment Executive Committee, may suspend, cancel, or revoke the Charter of any Squadron of the Sons of the American Legion over which it has jurisdiction, in the event it violates the provisions of this Detachment Constitution, subject to the approval of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion Department in which said Squadron and Detachment are geographically located.

**Section 2.**

The cancellation or revocation of any Squadron Charter shall require the 2/3rds vote of the Detachment Executive Committee, and the approval of the American Legion Department Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XII  
AMMENDMENTS

**Section 1.**

This constitution may be amended at any Detachment Convention by the Affirmative vote of (2/3) two-thirds of the registered delegates there-at; subject to the ratification of the Department Executive Committee of the American Legion, wherein the Department of Arizona.

# The Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona By-Laws

## ARTICLE I DUTIES OF DETACHMENT OFFICERS

### Section 1.

- a. COMMANDER: The Sons of the American Legion Detachment Commander is the executive head of the organization at his level, with full power to carry out the mandates and policies of the Sons of the American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, as approved by the Executive Committee of The American Legion, Department of Arizona. He shall perform such duties as are usually incident to the office. He shall also act as the Chairman of the Detachment Executive Committee.
- b. The Detachment Commander shall attend, or shall designate another member to participate in as his official designee, Memorial Day ceremonies at all Arizona-based National Cemetery remembrances.

### Section 2.

VICE COMMANDERS: The Vice-Commanders, shall act as the representatives of the Detachment Commander on all matters referred to them, and shall, on his request, preside over meetings and perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. The primary function of the Vice-Commanders is to act as representative between the Detachment Commander and such other intermediated groups as may be prescribed by the Detachment Constitution. The function of the Vice-Commanders is also to accept responsibility of membership in his area, and to assist the Detachment Commander in the programs of The Sons of the American Legion. He shall make progress reports to Detachment Headquarters at least every (60) sixty days, to the Detachment Commander and/or the Detachment Adjutant, or be subject to disciplinary action.

### Section 3.

ADJUTANT OFFICER: The Adjutant, who corresponds to the secretary of an organization, shall be charged with the usual duties of an adjutant or secretary. He is the administrative officer of the policies and mandates of the organization.

### Section 4.

FINANCE OFFICER: The Finance Officer shall make reports on the condition of the treasury at each regular meeting, and when called for by the Detachment Commander, or the Executive Committee of the Detachment. His further duties will be to prepare reports of finances, the payment of outstanding debts, and an annual budget for the Department Headquarters. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to his office.

### Section 5.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: The Sergeant at Arms shall be charged with responsibility of preserving order at all Detachment meetings and shall be given the responsibility of the colors of the Detachment, when they are not in the possession of the Detachment Commander. He shall assist the Detachment Commander at all installations, and initiations, and such other functions of the Detachment as the Detachment Commander shall deem necessary, and are incident to his office.

### Section 6.

CHAPLAIN: The Chaplain shall perform such divine nonsectarian service, as shall be necessary adhering to the ceremonial rituals as may be prescribed.

### Section 7.

HISTORIAN: The Historian shall collect from year to year all records and data of value and interest to the Sons of the American Legion, Department of Arizona, and shall compile during his term of office a complete bound history of the year's activities, to be presented to the outgoing Detachment Commander on completion of his term.

**Section 8.**

JUDGE ADVOCATE: The Judge Advocate shall be the arbiter of all disputes concerning this Constitution and by-laws, and shall only be overruled by a (2/3rds) two-thirds, plus (1) one vote of the body in session. He shall be charged with the maintenance, and updating of this Constitution and by-laws.

**Section 9.**

The American Legion at the appropriate level shall govern all Officers of the Sons of the American Legion in the performance of their duties. All actions of The Sons of the American Legion at the Squadron, intermediate, area, and Detachment Level shall be subject to review and approval at the appropriate level of The American Legion.

ARTICLE II

SQUADRON & DETACHMENT CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

**Section 1.**

Each Squadron must adopt a constitution and by-laws, with the approval of the sponsoring Post. The Squadron Constitution and by-laws shall be adopted with the approval of the appropriate level of the American Legion, and there shall be no conflict with the National, or Department constitution and by-laws, on any level. Squadrons not having a constitution and by-laws approved by the sponsoring Post, Detachment and Department Executive Committee, shall not be recognized at Detachment Convention, and may offer no nominations for Detachment Officers, elected or appointed.

ARTICLE III

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Section 1.**

The Constitution of any Squadron, Detachment, may create an Executive Committee, and their powers and composition shall be stated in this Detachment Constitution and by-laws, and may not exceed or conflict with said document.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1.**

Membership in The Sons of the American Legion is membership in the Detachment, and National organization of The Sons of the American Legion by affiliation with a Squadron.

**Section 2.**

Each Squadron shall be the judge of its own membership, but subject to the restrictions and qualifications of this Constitution and By-laws.

**Section 3.**

Members may be suspended or expelled under the same provisions for suspension or expulsion of a member of The American Legion.

ARTICLE V  
MEMBERSHIP AND ARREARS DUES

**Section 1.**

Applications for membership shall be verified by the designated officials of the sponsoring Post of The American Legion having jurisdiction over the Squadron.

**Section 2.**

Any member not having current years membership dues paid on/by December 31, of the current year, shall be considered delinquent. Any member not having current years dues paid by December 31, of that year shall automatically be suspended from all privileges, and failure to pay current years dues by July 1, of the next year shall cause forfeiture of membership in The Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona. Any Delinquent or suspended member may be reinstated to active membership in good standing by a majority vote of his Squadron upon payment of all dues in arrears, plus payment of the current years dues. Any member whose membership has been forfeited for non-payment of dues for (1) one year may be reinstated by a majority vote of the Squadron upon payment of (1) one-year dues in arrears in addition to the current years membership dues.

ARTICLE VI  
EXPENSES

**Section 1.**

All Detachment expenses over \$750 must be approved at a regularly scheduled Detachment Meeting, by a majority, on a roll call vote of all Squadrons in attendance.

ARTICLE VII  
AMMENDMENTS

**Section 1.**

These By-laws may be amended at any Detachment Convention by the (2/3rds) two-thirds vote of the registered delegates there at, and are subject to the ratification of the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, wherein the Detachment is geographically located.

**Section 2.**

Such amendments as may be enacted by a (2/3rds) two-thirds vote of the registered delegates at any Detachment Convention shall take effect immediately following the close of business of the current Detachment Fall , subject to the approval from the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, wherein the Detachment is geographically located.

**Section 3.**

No amendments to, or current contents of these By-laws shall be in conflict with either Department, or National American Legion policy, or The Sons of The American Legion National Organization.

The By-laws committee recommends this constitution for ratification to the membership to the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona.

Submitted, June 23, 2018

By-law committee:

PDC-Jeff Frain Detachment Judge Advocate

PDC-Mike Talty Committee member

PDC-Joe Roberts Committee member

PDC-Rob Pederson Committee member

Approved:

*Detachment of Arizona, Sons of The American Legion*

*Detachment Constitution and Bylaws Endorsements:*

*The Detachment Executive Committee approval and endorsed*

*The Detachment Convention approval and endorsed*

*The American Legion, The Department of Arizona, Department Executive Committee approval and endorsed*

**FILED  
August  
2019**

*New Constitution and Bylaws Submitted by:*

*Sons of The American Legion; Detachment of Arizona; "Constitution and Bylaws Committee"*

*Committee Chairman — Jeff Frain, PNC, Detachment Judge Advocate*

*Committee Member — Rob Pederson, PDC*

*Committee Member — Mike Talty, PDC*

*Committee Member — [Name], PDC*

**Approved Constitution and Bylaws**

**JUNE 2019**

**Detachment of Arizona**

*Constitution and Bylaws submitted to: Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, signed and dated by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chairman on behalf of the Committee as a whole in recommending the approval and adoption of the attached Constitution and Bylaws of the Detachment of Arizona, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee of the Department of Arizona.*

**Approved by Membership Vote at Detachment State Convention 2019, Saturday, 22 June 2019 and**

**Ratified by The American Legion, Department of Arizona, Department Executive Board on Sunday 23 June 2019**

**Originals Filed with signatures:**

Detachment Constitution and Bylaws Chairman, Jeff Frain, one signed original, November 2018

Detachment Adjutant, Keith Birkemeyer, one signed original, June 2019

Detachment files, Detachment HQ, two signed originals, June 2019

Department Adjutant, Angel Juarez, one signed original, June 2019

Department HQ, two signed originals, June 2019

National SAL Adjutant, Anthony Wright, National Internal Affairs, Two signed originals and original PDF. July 2019

Posted: Detachment Website

Available for attachment to e-mailed request by membership of either the Legion or Sons upon "Official Written Request"

*Signed originals distributed to:*

*The National Adjutant, Sons of The American Legion, one signed copy*

*The Department of Arizona, two signed copies*

*The Department Commander of Arizona, one signed copy*

*The Detachment of Arizona, two signed copies*

*The Detachment of Arizona, Detachment Commander, one signed copy*

*The Constitution and Bylaws Committee Chairman of the Detachment of Arizona, one signed copy*



Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Arizona  
Detachment Convention, Phoenix, Arizona  
June 22, 2019  
RESOLUTION

No.: Arizona Resolution #1  
Title: Amendment to the Detachment Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion,  
Article X, Section 2  
Origin: Finance Officer, Detachment of Arizona

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WHEREAS, since the inception of the organization in 1932, the principal mission of the Sons of The American Legion has been to support the needs, programs and legacy of the parent organization, “The American Legion;” and

WHEREAS, the proposed National Dues increase pending approval at the Annual National Convention of The Sons of The American Legion in August of 2019 held in Indianapolis, IN will result in an increase of dues owed to the National Organization; and

WHEREAS, providing continued financial support is necessary to ensure the mission, through the service and support which the organization provides, is able to be sustained; and

WHEREAS, the Detachment of Arizona supports the mission with \$8.00 collected for each membership processed and sends to National Treasurer \$2.00 for each member transmitted; and

WHEREAS, to benefit the continued health and growth of the organization, it is dependent upon the ability to properly fund the administrative costs, therefore an increase is necessary; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, Article X, Section 2, now reads, “The amount of such annual dues shall be \$8.00; Detachment and \$2.00 National per capita dues, and shall be payable commencing July 1st, of each year.” now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, by the Detachment of Arizona of the Sons of The American Legion in Annual Convention assembled in Phoenix, Arizona on June 22, 2019, that the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, amend the Constitution of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona, Article X, Section 2 to read, “The amount of such annual dues shall be \$6.00 collected for Detachment in addition to those amounts collected for National per capita dues, and shall be payable concurrent with National per capita dues increase effective date as determined by National Resolution approved and processed; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that the increase take effect concurrent with the increase of the National Organization start date for their respective increase for the distribution of the 2021 National Membership cards, and applied to all membership transmittals received after that date.**

SUBMITTED BY: <b>Charles E. Treat</b>
Charles E Treat, Detachment Finance Officer, Arizona, Sons of The American Legion
RECEIVED BY: <b>Keith V Birkemeyer</b>
Keith V Birkemeyer, Detachment Adjutant, Arizona, Sons of The American Legion



# The Sons of The American Legion National Executive Committee

Held on  
May 2-3, 2020

## Resolution

Page 1 of 1

**No. S.A.L. Resolution 3 - Spring, 2020**

**Title: Endorsement of Matthew Griffis (AZ) for National Vice Commander**

**Origin: Detachment of Arizona**

**WHEREAS**, The Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendants of Veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, The National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion requires that candidates for national elective office in the Sons of The American Legion be presented to the National body by resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, Matthew Griffis has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of Arizona as an elected national officer by his dedication and sacrifice for the good of The American Legion Family; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, By the National Executive Committee of The Sons of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 2-3, 2020, That the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Arizona hereby endorses Matthew Griffis for the high office of National Vice Commander at such future time and year as may become available; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the above resolution was endorsed by the Detachment of Arizona and the Department of Arizona with indicated National action submitted for the local resolving clause. The signatures of the Detachment Adjutant, Keith V. Birkemeyer, and the Department Adjutant, Angel Juarez, are on the submitted resolution.

Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation

Approved   
 Rejected   
 Referred to:  \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Action:  \_\_\_\_\_

Commission / Committee, Chairman Name, Signature

Mark A. Tansel  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mark A. Tansel (IN), Chairman  
 Internal Affairs Commission

Resolutions Subcommittee Chairman Signature

John T. Jennings  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 John T. Jennings (FL), Chairman  
 Subcommittee on Resolutions

THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT IN TRIPLICATE  
All copies are to be submitted to the Detachment Adjutant, under the proper time restrictions

SON OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DETACHMENT OF ARIZONA  
DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS, THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
09 November 2019 Tucson, Arizona  
RESOLUTION

No.: S.A.L. Resolution 1 – Fall 2019  
Title: Endorsement of P.D.C Matthew Griffis for National Vice Commander  
Origin: Detachment of Arizona

WHEREAS, the Sons of The American Legion is a program of The American Legion comprised of descendants of Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion requires that candidates for National elective office in The Sons of The American Legion be presented to The National body by Resolution; and

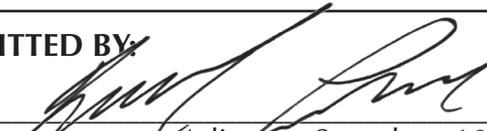
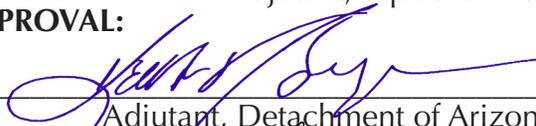
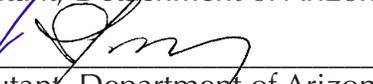
WHEREAS, Past Detachment Commander, Matthew Griffis has distinguished himself as capable and willing to represent the Detachment of Arizona as an elected National Officer by his dedication and sacrifice for the good of The American Legion Family; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED, by Squadron No 109, The Sons of the American Legion Detachment of Arizona in regular meeting assembled in Tucson, Arizona 22 September 2019 that Past Detachment Commander Matthew Griffis be certified by The Detachment of Arizona in executive session in Tucson Arizona 9 November 2019 to be fit and ready to compete for the office of National Vice Commander West of The Sons of The American Legion; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that upon approval of The Executive Committee of the Detachment of Arizona that this resolution be forward to The Department of Arizona for approval; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that after approval form The Department of Arizona, The Department Adjutant shall affix his signature here to; and be it finally**

**RESOLVED, that official notification be conveyed to the National Adjutant of The Sons of The American Legion that Past Detachment Commander Matthew Griffis is hereby endorsed by The Detachment and Department of Arizona as candidate for National Vice Commander.**

<p><b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>            _____          Adjutant, Squadron 109</p> <p><b>APPROVAL:</b>            _____          Adjutant, Detachment of Arizona</p> <p>           _____          Adjutant, Department of Arizona</p>	<p><b>TO BE FILLED IN BY THE RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p>Approval Recommended: _____</p> <p>Rejection Recommended: _____</p> <p>Referral To: _____</p> <p>Other Action: _____</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Chairmans Signature: _____</p>
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DETACHMENT HEADQUARTERS, THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

DETACHMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
09 November 2019 Tucson, Arizona  
RESOLUTION

No.: S.A.L. Resolution 1 – Fall 2019  
Title: Endorsement of P.D.C Matthew Griffis for National Vice Commander  
Origin: Detachment of Arizona

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WHEREAS, the National Executive Committee of the Sons of The American Legion requires that candidates for National elective office in The Sons of The American Legion be presented to The National body by Resolution; and

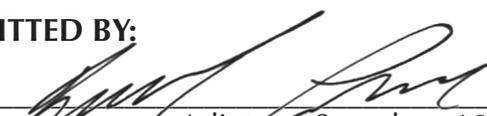
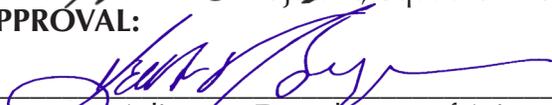
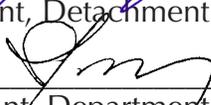
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**RESOLVED, that upon approval of The Executive Committee of the Detachment of Arizona that this resolution be forward to The Department of Arizona for approval; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that after approval form The Department of Arizona, The Department Adjutant shall affix his signature here to; and be it finally**

**RESOLVED, that official notification be conveyed to the National Adjutant of The Sons of The American Legion that Past Detachment Commander Matthew Griffis is hereby endorsed by The Detachment and Department of Arizona as candidate for National Vice Commander.**

<p><b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>            _____          Adjutant, Squadron 109</p> <p><b>APPROVAL:</b>            _____          Adjutant, Detachment of Arizona</p> <p>          _____          Adjutant, Department of Arizona</p>	<p><b>TO BE FILLED IN BY THE RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p>Approval Recommended: _____</p> <p>Rejection Recommended: _____</p> <p>Referral To: _____</p> <p>Other Action: _____</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Chairmans Signature: _____</p>
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**RESOLVED, that upon approval of The Executive Committee of the Detachment of Arizona that this resolution be forward to The Department of Arizona for approval; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that after approval form The Department of Arizona, The Department Adjutant shall affix his signature here to; and be it finally**

**RESOLVED, that official notification be conveyed to the National Adjutant of The Sons of The American Legion that Past Detachment Commander Matthew Griffis is hereby endorsed by The Detachment and Department of Arizona as candidate for National Vice Commander.**

<p><b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>            Adjutant, Squadron 109</p> <p><b>APPROVAL:</b>            Adjutant, Detachment of Arizona</p> <p>          Adjutant, Department of Arizona</p>	<p><b>TO BE FILLED IN BY THE RESOLUTIONS CHAIRMAN</b></p> <p>Approval Recommended: _____</p> <p>Rejection Recommended: _____</p> <p>Referral To: _____</p> <p>Other Action: _____</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Chairmans Signature: _____</p>
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# Sons of The American Legion Resolution

## Detachment of Arizona

### Detachment Executive Committee

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**No: S.A.L. Resolution 1, April 14, 2020**

**Title: Cancellation Detachment of Arizona 2020, Detachment Convention and Disposition of Detachment Officers**

**Origin: Detachment of Arizona, Executive Committee Meeting, April 14, 2020 Tele-Conference Call**

WHEREAS, The Department of Arizona has been notified that The American Legion National Executive Committee of The American Legion, by electronic mail vote agrees that present circumstances constitute sufficient reasons to cancel the 2020 American Legion National Convention; and

WHEREAS, The State Government of Arizona has taken emergency actions to prevent the spread of infections and to follow federal guidance that restrict public gatherings and urge social distancing. No one can say with any certainty when these measures will be lifted or in what manner; and

WHEREAS, Many American Legion state and foreign departments are cancelling their conventions and elections to protect public health in the midst of this pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 3 of the Detachment Constitution By-Laws states that “No amendment or current contents of these By-Laws shall be in conflict with either the Department, or National American Legion policy or the Sons of The American Legion National Organization;” and

WHEREAS, The current Detachment Officers have already received training for their positions, the next offering of which is unknown at this time for any new Officer who would begin a term before Detachment Convention 2021; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By The SONS of The American Legion, Detachment of Arizona Executive Committee on April 14, 2020 in special session by electronic vote similar to National, pursuant to The Constitution of The American Legion Department of Arizona, Article XVI – National Constitution, Section 1; That due to the uncertainty of the duration of the disease known as Coronavirus (COVID-19), the numerous government regulations being enforced to contain it and concern for the safety of all members of the American Legion Family, the Sons of The American Legion Detachment Executive Committee of Arizona agrees that present circumstances constitute sufficient reasons to cancel the 2020 Sons of The American Legion Detachment Convention; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That all Detachment of Arizona elected and appointed officers continue serving in their current positions until the close of the next Department Convention scheduled in Mesa, Arizona, from June 24, 2021 through June 27, 2021; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That all Detachment commission and/or committee chairpersons and the current commission and committee members continue serving in their current positions until they resign or are either reassigned or reappointed at the next Detachment Convention scheduled in Mesa, Arizona, on June 26, 2021 and subject to approval by the Department of Arizona Executive Committee at the close of Convention; and, be it further**



# Sons of The American Legion Resolution

## Detachment of Arizona

### Detachment Executive Committee

---

**No: S.A.L. Resolution 1, April 14, 2020**

**Title: Cancellation Detachment of Arizona 2020, Detachment Convention and Disposition of Detachment Officers**

**Origin: Detachment of Arizona, Executive Committee Meeting, April 14, 2020 Tele-Conference Call**

**RESOLVED, That any resolutions needing to come before the Detachment Executive Committee, may be brought forth to the Detachment Executive Committee and subsequently considered and voted on by video meetings, electronic mail or any other allowed means prior to the next allowed physical meeting; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That due to numerous health and safety reasons and needs of our members, the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment Executive Committee strongly urges that the Sons of The American Legion Squadrons follow a similar course of action.**

**Resolutions Subcommittee Recommendation**

Referred to: Detachment Adjutant

Action: Submit for Vote by e-mail of the Detachment Executive Committee

**Resolution is:**

Approved  *Results of Detachment Executive Committee Vote: 29 Yea, 1 Nea — votes filed with Detachment Camp Out conference Call minutes of 14 April, 2020*

Rejected

Other Action  \_\_\_\_\_

**Detachment Officer Names, Signatures**

*Charles E Treat*

Detachment Commander Signature

Charles E. Treat, II (SQ 29)

Detachment Commander, Detachment of Arizona

*Brad Heck*

Resolutions Subcommittee Chairman Signature

Bradley Heck (SQ 39)

Resolutions Chairman, Detachment of Arizona

*Jeff Frain*

Detachment Adjutant Signature

Jeffrey C Frain (SQ 27)

Detachment Adjutant, Detachment of Arizona





**Sons of The American Legion  
Detachment of Arizona  
Constitution and Bylaws**