

09:58:06 --> 09:58:14

The meeting will start in two minutes. Leadership meeting number one.

09:58:14 --> 09:58:17

Commander Shirley May. Two minutes.

09:58:17 --> 09:58:32

If you are a participant, please mute your microphone until you need to speak.

09:58:32 --> 09:58:35

And then unmute when the time calls.

09:58:35 --> 09:58:51

: The agenda is intro. Thanks. Rules of engagement. Bill Haines, Arab Legion. Cover Bobby Stewart, ***** the Charter Finance Committee meeting 11 August, 100 h department headquarters.

09:58:51 --> 09:58:58

: Hayden Woods, Shirley Mays, Ponte Legion College, October 16th through 18th. Potential nominees for Governor's Veter.

09:58:58 --> 09:59:10

: National Recommended Training, Toxic Workplace and Harassment Training, Additional Topics. The next meeting, September 15th, 2026. Time to be determined, location to be determined.

09:59:10 --> 09:59:13

: That is the agenda for today's meeting.

09:59:13 --> 09:59:22

: Aye. Morning, Marine. Yep.

09:59:22 --> 09:59:33

: And it will be recorded.

09:59:33 --> 09:59:40

: I can't keep track.

09:59:53 --> 10:00:03

: This meeting is being recorded on Zoom.

10:00:03 --> 10:00:07

: Please direct all your questions to the commander.

10:00:07 --> 10:00:10

: If you're online, please.

10:00:10 --> 10:00:17

: State your name at the appropriate point. If not, please mute your microphone while you're online. Thank you.

10:00:23 --> 10:00:36

: All right, we're going to go ahead and get started. This is the leadership meeting, first one for the year. I would request that everybody stand so that they can get left and careful.

10:00:42 --> 10:00:56

: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

10:00:56 --> 10:01:03

: Let's pray. Lord, we're thankful today that we can come together for.

10:01:03 --> 10:01:08

: Time of discussion and leadership quality.

10:01:08 --> 10:01:18

: We ask that you would direct us in everything that is said and done today, that we can be very positive in promoting the Department of Oklahoma.

10:01:18 --> 10:01:20

: at the end.

10:01:20 --> 10:01:21

: Promoting our post.

10:01:21 --> 10:01:30

: our districts, and our leadership today. May we have your guidance in all things. We ask in Christ's name. Amen. Amen.

10:01:30 --> 10:01:32

: Please recover.

10:01:34 --> 10:01:36

: Wonderful.

10:01:37 --> 10:01:40

: We will set a preamble.

10:01:42 --> 10:01:59

: We associate ourselves together 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 100% Americanism.

10:01:59 --> 10:02:04

: To preserve the memories and incidents of our association in all wars.

10:02:04 --> 10:02:11

: to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation.

10:02:11 --> 10:02:26

: to combat the hypocrisy of both the classes and the masses, to make right the master of money, to promote peace and goodwill on earth, to safeguard and transmit with posterity the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy.

10:02:26 --> 10:02:33

: To consecrate and sanctify our comprehenship by our devotion to mutual help.

10:02:34 --> 10:02:37

: Everybody will please be seated.

10:02:38 --> 10:02:46

: One more housekeeping note, if you will, please. If you are going to speak, please state your name for the record.

10:02:50 --> 10:03:04

: Start with, um, Arthur's here, and we're going to go around the room, and I want you to say your name, and whether you're a district commander or the EC representative, whatever your position is, so that we can have it for the record, so...

10:03:04 --> 10:03:06

: Yeah, me.

10:03:06 --> 10:03:09

: Karen Cruz, Vice Commander East.

10:03:09 --> 10:03:11

: Shirley May, Commander.

10:03:11 --> 10:03:19

: Patricia Mathis-Kerr senior vice commander.

10:03:19 --> 10:03:23

: Wayne Flowers, Vice Commander West.

10:03:30 --> 10:03:35

: Sam McPherson finance office,
Bobby Marshall District, Andrew.

10:03:35 --> 10:03:41

: Larry Watson, District 5A or 6A.

10:03:41 --> 10:03:49

: A V. Can you see where I'm at?

10:03:53 --> 10:03:56

: Dale Hines, Judge Advocate.

10:03:57 --> 10:04:00
: Bobby Stewart, Department Chaplin.

10:04:00 --> 10:04:05
: Don Quincey, 6ADEC.
Ed Lager, Sergeant at Arms.

10:04:05 --> 10:04:10
: Media Communications. Jack Sykes, BSO.

10:04:12 --> 10:04:16
: Dave Shocker,

10:04:19 --> 10:04:22
: Scott, that would be very good to be invited.

10:04:22 --> 10:04:24
: Perfect, perfect.

10:04:25 --> 10:04:33
: All right, well, I want to thank everybody for being here. So what I would like to do is recognize who we have on Zoom.

10:04:34 --> 10:04:36
: We have Hayden Woods.

10:04:38 --> 10:04:41
: PDC and Steve Thomas.

10:04:45 --> 10:04:59
: Again, thank you for your trust and confidence in electing me as your department commander. It's an honor and I'll do my best to serve you and all the veterans in Oklahoma. We started working on increasing communication last year throughout the state.

10:04:59 --> 10:05:07
: I want to continue to work on the communications across the State. We, as leaders, need to ensure our members.

10:05:07 --> 10:05:13
: are provided with the information they need to assist other veterans, their families, and their communities.

10:05:14 --> 10:05:23
: When our members have that in place, they not only help us investors and families, but they are able to provide assistance within their communities.

10:05:23 --> 10:05:29
: I also want to continue to break down what has been perceived as a piece of press.

10:05:29 --> 10:05:44

: boundaries in Oklahoma. We are Oklahoma, the state of Oklahoma. So really, there's no east, west, north, or south. So we're going to continue working on that, spreading ideas across the State from one post to another.

10:05:44 --> 10:06:00

: Do I mind a little friendly competition? No, not at all. I think a little competition among like-sized folks throughout the State is good. It may motivate somebody to get out there and work on membership or retention more so than if they didn't have any.

10:06:00 --> 10:06:02

: Offices in the field.

10:06:02 --> 10:06:17

: So the American Legion is a veteran and family organization, legion, auxiliary sons and riders. I believe we are all here to help each other. When we work together we can and will accomplish so much more.

10:06:17 --> 10:06:21

: As with any family, we're not always going to agree.

10:06:21 --> 10:06:24

: So let's discuss our differences.

10:06:24 --> 10:06:29

: Find a workable solution and move forward.

10:06:29 --> 10:06:40

: We can't overrun the ill feelings, we can't hold ill will against anybody. Let's not hold the grudges or dismiss anybody's opinion just because you don't agree.

10:06:41 --> 10:06:47

: So my motto is the Legion family moving forward as one.

10:06:47 --> 10:07:01

: I want us to work together. I did invite the sons, the auxiliary and the writers today. I got one text message that said Brett would not be here. He has a previous commitment with Odba.

10:07:01 --> 10:07:03

: Bye.

10:07:03 --> 10:07:07

: So he won't be here, but we do have the auxiliary present.

10:07:08 --> 10:07:16

: So I want to thank you all for being here today and for your service to our members, veterans, and your communities.

10:07:17 --> 10:07:24
: I hope everybody has turned their cell phones on silent. If not, please do so at this time.

10:07:25 --> 10:07:33
: This is going to be sort of an open forum discussion. I've got some items to discuss here.

10:07:34 --> 10:07:40
: But at the end, we will have it open for additional discussion.

10:07:40 --> 10:07:51
: Okay, um, Chris just let me know that he's working the nights right now. He does road work, and he would make it today. Okay. So he did reach out. Okay, good deal.

10:07:52 --> 10:07:55
: All right, so any questions at this point?

10:07:56 --> 10:08:02
: I'm sorry, we've got two new members here.

10:08:02 --> 10:08:06
: So if you'll give your name and your, um...

10:08:06 --> 10:08:07
: Fine.

10:08:07 --> 10:08:10
: Wine, flour, plastic...

10:08:10 --> 10:08:12
: Okay.

10:08:12 --> 10:08:17
: Perry Moore, second place of five feet.

10:08:20 --> 10:08:27
: So at this time, my first topic is going to be Dale Hines. He has an item we need to discuss.

10:08:31 --> 10:08:32
: Thank you for that.

10:08:33 --> 10:08:36
: I got one. Thanks, everyone. Bye.

10:08:39 --> 10:08:50
: I asked the manager to put this on the agenda. I think it's something we need to talk about. When we go to the DEC meeting, you see a lot of different colored hats, a lot of white hats.

10:08:50 --> 10:08:54
: And basically, it was just a long-standing misunderstanding.

10:08:54 --> 10:09:00
: First came up several years ago, and I was a district commander, and they told my district.

10:09:00 --> 10:09:08
: The executive committee person will be wearing a white hat. We'll challenge that. In fact, we'll continue to wear a different hat.

10:09:08 --> 10:09:09
: Oh.

10:09:10 --> 10:09:12
: Community, sometimes.

10:09:12 --> 10:09:23
: It may seem like the minor thing. We came up a year or so ago and I did a little digging and we found that there is a national resolution.

10:09:23 --> 10:09:26
: With the National Revolution.

10:09:26 --> 10:09:28
: So that is 1964.

10:09:28 --> 10:09:30
: So.

10:09:30 --> 10:09:32
: Rule's been around for a long time.

10:09:32 --> 10:09:35
: Well, a lot of people obviously have not been there.

10:09:35 --> 10:09:39
: When I think 1964, I wonder, is it still current?

10:09:39 --> 10:09:50
: If you look at the 2026 Officer Manual, and you look under the headgear, you'll find that it references the 1964 resolution, but apparently it's still valid.

10:09:52 --> 10:09:55
: Unfortunately, most people.

10:09:55 --> 10:10:05
: Don't go back to read it from that because they couldn't find it, okay? It's not easy to find a resolution at the national level, especially one that's been around since 1964.

10:10:05 --> 10:10:09
: Anyway, the resolution is pretty clear cut in my opinion.

10:10:09 --> 10:10:11

: Talking about the health and fat.

10:10:11 --> 10:10:27

: It tells you what you put on your hat, where it goes, so forth and so on. But when it gets down to what hat you wear, it says the department officer cap may be worn by all constitutional officers and assistant officers of the same grade, whether elected or appointed.

10:10:27 --> 10:10:39

: Then it goes on to say that the term constitutional requires that the office involved must be provided for in the department constitution of the state involved.

10:10:39 --> 10:10:44

: The state is to make the target audience, but we have to do it in our constitution.

10:10:44 --> 10:10:47

: If we go over...

10:10:47 --> 10:10:49

: Article 6.

10:10:49 --> 10:10:52

: As a part of the Constitution.

10:10:52 --> 10:10:57

: Section 1A gives us a list of who our department officers are.

10:10:57 --> 10:11:00

: In my opinion, this is the way I have it.

10:11:00 --> 10:11:04

: The people listed in 1A in Oracle Fix.

10:11:04 --> 10:11:10

: Article 1B tells us who the district officers are. This is another corner.

10:11:10 --> 10:11:12

: Little bit of confusion on blocking.

10:11:12 --> 10:11:23

: As a district commander, I've often asked, who is your adjutant? Who is your captain? Who is your this? Who is your that? According to our Constitution, our district officer is a district commander.

10:11:24 --> 10:11:28

: Andrews and the DC rep with him.

10:11:28 --> 10:11:34

: Then goes on down to one seed, which is the national, and that is our NEC and our alternate NEC.

10:11:34 --> 10:11:46

: So, the way I look at it, our Constitution says, those listed in 1A, wear the white hat. Those listed in 1B, wear the blue and white hat. Those listed in 1C, wear a red hat.

10:11:46 --> 10:11:51

: Now, this is a little bit controversial because a lot of people have already paid \$100 for the hat.

10:11:51 --> 10:11:55

: Some people were happy not to pay \$100 for that.

10:11:55 --> 10:12:05

: And I don't think it's malice. I think it's just unimportant. And I just thought it'd be a good time to get the record straight and get everybody on the same sheet of music.

10:12:06 --> 10:12:07

: Anybody have any questions?

10:12:10 --> 10:12:27

: So, yeah, question. So just to be clear what you're saying, if DTC members from the district that are members of the DTC to be in the blue and white cap, not the white cap. Yeah. Just to be clear. Yeah. If you went on up to the next, the district and redhead, it says basically without reading it.

10:12:27 --> 10:12:31

: The district people were whatever the Constitution says to them.

10:12:31 --> 10:12:40

: And our constitution is representative on who those officers are. So basically, yes, DEC representative of the district was one of the women I had.

10:12:40 --> 10:12:48

: What about Americanism, oratorical? I've seen them write in white hat.

10:12:48 --> 10:12:50

: They're all listed in one item.

10:12:50 --> 10:13:05

: What are the options specifically listed in 1A? Yeah, 1A is Department Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Vice Commander East, Vice Commander West, Judge Adjutant, Treasurer, Historian, Sergeant of Arms, Chapman.

10:13:05 --> 10:13:09

: Sergeant and the Department Representative of the Oklahoma Veterans Commission.

10:13:10 --> 10:13:13

: Those are our department officers reporting to our Constitution.

10:13:16 --> 10:13:18

: Wanted to buy some caps.

10:13:18 --> 10:13:24

: All right. Time to buy some caps at this point. Or put some in retirement.

10:13:24 --> 10:13:25

: Yeah. Okay.

10:13:25 --> 10:13:36

: It's always been my understanding that if you are a DEC member, you do wear a white hat at the DEC meetings.

10:13:36 --> 10:13:48

: But, that's not... That's where the confusion came up several years ago, uh, when I was District Commander. Sure. But my District Command... my District DEC said, what color hat do I wear? I said, blah blah blah.

10:13:48 --> 10:13:54

: He was challenged on it. Commander Martin was kind of dying. He said, I don't feel welcome back.

10:13:56 --> 10:13:58

: Okay.

10:14:01 --> 10:14:12

: Second person, finance officer. I do remember the first constitutional bylaws we had for the Maryland constitutional bylaws is specifically said in there.

10:14:12 --> 10:14:27

: Uh, district commanders will wear a blue and white hat, and district DDC members will wear a white hat. But like I said, that was the first Constitution bylaws. It's been rewritten since then. That may have added...

10:14:28 --> 10:14:35

: And like I say, I think it's nothing more than disconfusion. As long as that's the way you're used to it, that's what we've always done.

10:14:37 --> 10:14:39

: Anybody else have any comments, questions?

10:14:40 --> 10:14:43

: We can talk about both.

10:14:44 --> 10:14:47

: Wouldn't be there to do it.

10:14:48 --> 10:14:49

: And how do you want to do it?

10:14:49 --> 10:14:51

: Moving forward a little bit.

10:14:51 --> 10:14:54

: Okay, right.

10:14:54 --> 10:15:01

: Again, for the record, if you wish to speak, since this is being on Zoom, please state your name and position. Thank you.

10:15:01 --> 10:15:04

: Karen Cruz, Vice Chancellor, Edie.

10:15:04 --> 10:15:07

: It's early. How do we find it?

10:15:09 --> 10:15:17

: I think that we're going to have to take the resolution, and we're going to have to send it out to the districts and the voters.

10:15:17 --> 10:15:22

: Darren was asking if we should be available many years to get into compliance.

10:15:22 --> 10:15:24

: I think you're adequate time.

10:15:24 --> 10:15:31

: Yeah, same. Second person. How have I improved their curriculum?

10:15:31 --> 10:15:35

: Because I don't just get \$100 per ad.

10:15:35 --> 10:15:37

: You got a two year term.

10:15:37 --> 10:15:39

: You know, I mean...

10:15:39 --> 10:15:43

: You want me to turn around and sign another \$100 ad? That's just.

10:15:44 --> 10:15:50

: And then make sure everybody's clear from doing all that. Thank you.

10:15:50 --> 10:15:55

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: Karen Cruz, High Commander Keith, the DEC comes.

10:15:55 --> 10:16:00

: So they shouldn't leave two years.

10:16:02 --> 10:16:05

: Bill Haynes, your dad, forbid.

10:16:06 --> 10:16:21

: My personal opinion, this is my personal opinion, I think we're wearing this hat, you know, not to be saying it's a more moderate issue, it's

moderate, but anything is education, anything people just need to know what the rules are so that they can comply with what they can't comply with what they don't want.

10:16:21 --> 10:16:31

: So as far as the time limit is concerned, I would recommend that we respect Portland to put the word out to the people we love. And I think we'll find most of our people.

10:16:31 --> 10:16:42

: will comply on their own once they go out and drop the ruler. They may stumble a little bit, but I think it will be a natural occurring thing once they go out and drop the ruler. That's just my personal opinion.

10:16:42 --> 10:16:44

: Definitely.

10:16:45 --> 10:16:49

: Logan Marshall, Safety Commander.

10:16:49 --> 10:17:04

: Honestly, I think your timeline would be a little bit too far extended on that, particularly here. I mean, is there really a case where anybody's been elected to a position that hasn't already at least been part of the district position? Most likely has that, I don't think.

10:17:04 --> 10:17:20

: I would suggest, as a personal opinion, set the limit to be by the mid-center conference, which is the next major conference, and get the education and the information out as fast as possible, spread it around to remind people of what happened, where they're aware of it.

10:17:21 --> 10:17:28

: Maybe make it by mid-air conference room next day as we start to enforce the cabin feasibility.

10:17:28 --> 10:17:33

: Most people, if it's parked up, should have already been.

10:17:35 --> 10:17:55

: My question on those times that would correlate with the education is right now, the end year is on back order for 3 months, up to 3 months right now. So that puts us real close to that time frame. If they're already back ordered in 3 months, is there going to be a continued back order with a.

10:17:55 --> 10:18:07

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: you know, barrage of our ordering. So would a 6, or would a mid-later conference timeframe be logical for it's supposed to. So we'll give the person who has trouble getting their ad time.

10:18:07 --> 10:18:10

: Or like the one year ago. Okay, that's just a question.

10:18:12 --> 10:18:19
: I mean that, you know.

10:18:19 --> 10:18:34
: The the point I'm making is that most people, if they're especially shifting from already having a white hat that they bought back to the blue and white. They should already have that. So it's not willing to have to wait for a half order if they use the old app.

10:18:34 --> 10:18:42
: that you're supposed to be wearing. Say the white hat you've already ordered for .

10:18:45 --> 10:18:46
: So...

10:18:47 --> 10:18:56
: From a command standpoint, I would say we've got to get the letters out to the district commanders and our post commanders so they can be pushed out.

10:18:57 --> 10:19:02
: I think we try to make the change by mid-winter conference.

10:19:02 --> 10:19:09
: And then for anybody that still may be wearing the inappropriate hat, we just educate them.

10:19:09 --> 10:19:12
: And encourage them to have it before someone else.

10:19:12 --> 10:19:19
: And that gives you a time frame that we're going to set for when they should change the hat, but then we'll allow.

10:19:19 --> 10:19:20
: I mean...

10:19:20 --> 10:19:26
: you're not gonna find them or anything, I don't think, right now, for not having to bypass those.

10:19:27 --> 10:19:32
: Sarge and I will work on putting that letter together and getting it sent to you.

10:19:34 --> 10:19:42
: So the major people that this is going to affect is our DDCs.

10:19:42 --> 10:19:45
: our committee chairs.

10:19:45 --> 10:19:49
: and our writer, our writer commissioner.

10:19:50 --> 10:19:57

: Correct. Yeah, it took a lot of commission, more than what I had told you to visit.

10:19:58 --> 10:20:00

: But I think you're probably right.

10:20:00 --> 10:20:03

: And... the...

10:20:04 --> 10:20:06

: What is that you're having?

10:20:11 --> 10:20:12

: Of course.

10:20:18 --> 10:20:24

: And the committee chair's in the bottom yet, so do we have an announcement? We have both committee chairs, so.

10:20:30 --> 10:20:39

: But are we good on that discussion? Micromedia Communications. We'll also put this on the website.

10:20:40 --> 10:20:52

: And the fact that it is in our Constitution and Bylaws, it's a perfect opportunity for the DEC who haven't read the Constitution and Bylaws, and they should read the Constitution and Bylaws, that they will do so.

10:20:54 --> 10:20:58

: Don't mind, I'm sorry. Don't mind.

10:20:59 --> 10:21:01

: Bill, I'm good.

10:21:01 --> 10:21:06

: It's been brought to my attention that our constitutional bylaw is still.

10:21:06 --> 10:21:08

: 2022.

10:21:08 --> 10:21:19

: As I mentioned, there's a law that's been passed out for September 26th. There was going to be some confusion by many of the folks who picked that up thinking that we had a new constitution in September 2026.

10:21:19 --> 10:21:24

: So we need to make sure that everybody understands constitutions have not been changed.

10:21:24 --> 10:21:28

: All students who say that 2026 was passed out is not valid.

10:21:28 --> 10:21:34

: Mark is working on getting the resolution incorporated in the Constitution.

10:21:34 --> 10:21:39

: that were passed, we will put out a new constitution model.

10:21:39 --> 10:21:44

: But there's probably going to be some confusion because the convention for all those laying around.

10:21:44 --> 10:21:55

: A lot of people picked them up, and most people have no idea what's wrong. I've asked too many people about the resolutions of the past. So far, I've not found anybody who can really remember.

10:21:55 --> 10:21:57

: With resolution, if I have to look down twice.

10:22:00 --> 10:22:07

: Next item will be talking about the leader.

10:22:09 --> 10:22:13

: The, uh, one that we have, like.

10:22:13 --> 10:22:21

: The Department of VFO, as we just noticed from the Revenue Constitution, is not recognized as a departmental officer.

10:22:21 --> 10:22:26

: I'll remind everybody that this meeting was not the BDC, it's the...

10:22:26 --> 10:22:34

: Senior staff with this staff meeting. So anything that we change, that goes through GEC and through resolution.

10:22:34 --> 10:22:41

: But because of the fact, I think everybody recognizes the Department of VSO was one job that.

10:22:41 --> 10:22:44

: have a specialty that actually.

10:22:44 --> 10:22:51

: First session on what they're doing and worked out really well so far with our vacuum field.

10:22:51 --> 10:22:56

: So I would recommend what we look at doing is doing a resolution.

10:22:56 --> 10:23:11

: taking it through the DEC and doing a BDC resolution to add the BSO department BSO as department officer in line and make it an appointed

position because of the fact the person does have the knowledge that we do and give voice from the DEC.

10:23:11 --> 10:23:13
: Don't forget.

10:23:13 --> 10:23:24
: The reason I wanted to bring it up at this meeting is just so we want to discuss it, and everybody kind of be prepared if we decide to go to the VDC with them. It would be nice if we're going to have a united body.

10:23:24 --> 10:23:38
: But once again, if we do not have the authority to do that, we can only recommend it. We will continue to do a resolution. We will not get the Constitution changed. We'll be at the next meeting if we decide to do it. That would be my recommendation.

10:23:38 --> 10:23:41
: And I'll just bring it up for discussion part.

10:23:45 --> 10:23:48
: All right, is there any discussion regarding that?

10:23:53 --> 10:24:03
: Scott, I agree with you. I think that the BSO, the Department of BSO needs to be recognized at the department level also.

10:24:03 --> 10:24:04
: um...

10:24:04 --> 10:24:10
: White cabinets, if you will, right? As well as the ALR Direct.

10:24:10 --> 10:24:17
: Simon Marquez, F5CA: Because the census against his portion of of the American people to hear the department very active portions.

10:24:17 --> 10:24:28
: So, while Dale says, you know, the idea of the... submit a resolution to change the... the Constitution or the bylaw, I think if we're gonna do it, we should make sure that we accompany and compass.

10:24:28 --> 10:24:32
: all of those leadership positions in in the.

10:24:32 --> 10:24:40
: Second resolution but we provided an equal standing amongst the DEC and the others.

10:24:40 --> 10:24:41
: Thank you. Bye.

10:24:41 --> 10:24:49

: Does the ALR director require to be there? Because I know they have all three.

10:24:49 --> 10:24:55

: So what if you have a non-agent error in a large group?

10:24:57 --> 10:24:59

: That'd be very fun.

10:24:59 --> 10:25:02

: I don't think we can do that today, Laura.

10:25:05 --> 10:25:18

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: On on that note. I understand with the the question on on headgear, especially for the Alr. And then also, you know, the.

10:25:18 --> 10:25:22

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: the Oy State commander. He started up. Sorry.

10:25:22 --> 10:25:25

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: Sons of each commander. I.

10:25:25 --> 10:25:40

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: Therefore I don't think it'd be more. Even those commanders could be recognized as that they would wear their own friends and family in that case.

10:25:41 --> 10:25:47

: And then getting the phone to voice to be able to .

10:25:49 --> 10:25:50

: Hello?

10:25:50 --> 10:25:55

: Dell Lane's a good advocate. Miriam on that, we had a...

10:25:55 --> 10:26:04

: We'll talk about the such thing as Boys Day Ford, Region Rider, November.

10:26:04 --> 10:26:13

: And even though the Legion Riders were probably or will be involved members of the American Legion, they pointed out that some of the others were not actual members of the American Legion.

10:26:13 --> 10:26:19

: I would say that we do not want to make people who are not African American Legion members one of our offices.

10:26:19 --> 10:26:25

: Some of the riders, yeah, they're going to be a member.

10:26:25 --> 10:26:32

: Like you said, that is a program in there, and moving the programs up to Park and Alton is not very big store.

10:26:32 --> 10:26:39

: We are so a little bit different, I think, in terms of program, but it is a position that's going to be at policy.

10:26:39 --> 10:26:43

: Recommended policies and so forth for the.

10:26:43 --> 10:26:46

: So in my opinion, that's a little different story.

10:26:46 --> 10:26:58

: Legion riders, ify, because yeah, they are. The others were not members of the American Legion according to this letter from Judge Evans. And I do have a copy of that, and I can provide a copy of that if anybody needs it.

10:27:03 --> 10:27:06

: All right, any further discussion?

10:27:09 --> 10:27:17

: Next, I would ask Bobby Stewart to speak. He's wanting to address breaking the charter.

10:27:18 --> 10:27:21

: Yeah, I'll do that from here.

10:27:21 --> 10:27:26

: Bobby Stewart, department chaplain. I ask.

10:27:26 --> 10:27:29

: The commander, if I could.

10:27:29 --> 10:27:35

: Have some time to talk to us about recognizing our deceased.

10:27:35 --> 10:27:37

: Members in the department.

10:27:37 --> 10:27:41

: In the past, I remember one time when.

10:27:41 --> 10:27:44

: And I can't even remember who our...

10:27:44 --> 10:27:48

: Department commander was at the time.

10:27:48 --> 10:27:51

: But we did have a recognition of.

10:27:53 --> 10:28:05

: acknowledging those that had passed over the past year that was in leadership. And then that's what I would like to do as a department chaplain, be able to at, uh...

10:28:06 --> 10:28:12

: Not necessarily the mid-winter conference, but at least at the summer conference.

10:28:12 --> 10:28:14

: Have a and.

10:28:14 --> 10:28:17

: Uh, time to drape the charter.

10:28:18 --> 10:28:19

: for...

10:28:19 --> 10:28:22

: deceased, past.

10:28:22 --> 10:28:29

: Leadership, whether it's a department commander or whether it's a district commander.

10:28:29 --> 10:28:34

: Auxiliary include all the Legion family.

10:28:35 --> 10:28:42

: Help me as the chaplain to be able to cover some of this and know what's going on.

10:28:42 --> 10:28:43

: uh...

10:28:45 --> 10:29:02

: Karen Cruz last year notified me of one. I think you lost two in leadership and three in leadership last year. That helps me as a department chaplain. I don't have any way to notify these families, contact them or whatever.

10:29:03 --> 10:29:19

: And I feel like that's part of my responsibility as department chaplain. I don't want to just be the one that gives the invocation and the benediction at our conferences, but I want to be able to be involved with the districts as well.

10:29:19 --> 10:29:25

: Uh, and give some notice there. Also, I encourage you to...

10:29:25 --> 10:29:29

: Notify the 1889 land run.

10:29:29 --> 10:29:39

: of deceased members. You can give an obituary on them. That helps the publisher of the 1889.

10:29:39 --> 10:29:42
: Take care of that.

10:29:42 --> 10:29:51
: But draping the charter, I would like to see us be able to have a ceremony for deceased members.

10:29:51 --> 10:29:55
: of the past year at our summer conference.

10:29:55 --> 10:30:03
: Uh, it just... I think it helps you as the district commanders feel a little more, uh.

10:30:03 --> 10:30:13
: relieved to know that some of your members are recognized by the entire department in the state of Oklahoma.

10:30:13 --> 10:30:17
: Just to be able to do that.

10:30:17 --> 10:30:26
: You all have my email address. My phone number is on the state officer's guide.

10:30:26 --> 10:30:35
: Keep in touch with me, let me know. And again, if you need anything, if I can help, I told Commander.

10:30:35 --> 10:30:36
: that, uh...

10:30:36 --> 10:30:49
: on these leadership meetings that we're having. I'm all in favor of them, and I told her last night at our post-meeting, she was, uh, there to install our officers, but I told her, I said, I plan on making all of them.

10:30:49 --> 10:30:55
: I'm excited that we can sit around the table and kind of.

10:30:55 --> 10:31:04
: Stir this thing and get it all in the same mix over the state. Like she said, there's no east and west. We're Oklahoma.

10:31:04 --> 10:31:08
: Except maybe the panhandle.

10:31:09 --> 10:31:14
: But, uh, we're... we're all working together, and... and let's just, uh...

10:31:14 --> 10:31:16

: Help me out.

10:31:16 --> 10:31:25

: on these death notices. That's a very important part of my ministry as the department chapter.

10:31:25 --> 10:31:26

: Thank you.

10:31:26 --> 10:31:28

Steve Thomas DC2025-26: Commander May, may I speak?

10:31:29 --> 10:31:31

: Yes.

10:31:31 --> 10:31:36

Steve Thomas DC2025-26: I don't know if you... hopefully you can all hear me. This is outgoing Department Commander Thomas.

10:31:36 --> 10:31:51

Steve Thomas DC2025-26: Uh, so we had actually... Stark and I had actually worked on this situation. Um, for any of you that have ever been to National Convention, where they have the ceremony to honor all Legionnaires from all departments.

10:31:52 --> 10:32:05

Steve Thomas DC2025-26: uh, Adjutant Davis and myself, we were actually working on trying to download a list of all of our deceased members from the department to do an opening ceremony Sunday morning at convention.

10:31:54 --> 10:31:56

: Okay, bye.

10:32:05 --> 10:32:14

Steve Thomas DC2025-26: prior to all the debacle that happened over misunderstandings of resolutions that kind of, uh, railroaded everything. So, uh...

10:32:14 --> 10:32:29

Steve Thomas DC2025-26: That would be... I wholeheartedly, 100% support our chaplain in this endeavor of making sure that we do a ceremony, preferably Sunday morning, assuming that the department keeps with the.

10:32:28 --> 10:32:30

: Bye.

10:32:29 --> 10:32:34

Steve Thomas DC2025-26: religious ceremony that the chaplain's done for the last year.

10:32:36 --> 10:32:38

: All right, thank you.

10:32:40 --> 10:32:44

: Is there any other discussion on this?

10:32:44 --> 10:33:00

: Yeah. I think this is going to be an excellent example of the districts and posts also to carry on this tradition as something that's somewhat lacking in some of the — at least in the districts.

10:33:00 --> 10:33:07

: Some of the posts don't even know about this. I think this would be an excellent thing to continue on with.

10:33:07 --> 10:33:09

: Thank you.

10:33:09 --> 10:33:10

: Good morning.

10:33:11 --> 10:33:14

: Well, the 3rd department chaplain.

10:33:14 --> 10:33:21

: Talking about this draping charting. A lot of departments, a lot of posts.

10:33:21 --> 10:33:35

: Uh, never get involved in this. If you do a draping the charter ceremony, uh, if there's any way to record it, video or whatever, I would like to see some of the.

10:33:35 --> 10:33:37

: uh...

10:33:37 --> 10:33:45

: ceremonies that you have, because there's no guideline, definitive guideline of just.

10:33:45 --> 10:33:48

: Step A to Step Z.

10:33:48 --> 10:33:58

: and follow this order. Sterling then saw what we did post 41 last night. We dragged the charter for one of our members.

10:33:59 --> 10:34:07

: Everyone does things a little different. And, and I like to take people's things, uh, programs.

10:34:07 --> 10:34:12

: Uh, I even take preachers' sermons, and I whittle them down to fit my gun.

10:34:12 --> 10:34:16

: But if I can see some of these, and it helps improve.

10:34:16 --> 10:34:21

: And we can share with one another. Then.

10:34:21 --> 10:34:24

: We may see some things that we like to do.

10:34:24 --> 10:34:30

: different, or that we can do better. The same way with the, uh, four chaplain service.

10:34:30 --> 10:34:32

: Oh.

10:34:32 --> 10:34:37

: I wish every post was involved in Fort Chaplin service in February.

10:34:37 --> 10:34:49

: Uh, it's an excellent program, and if you're not doing it, get the manual out and find out what it says, and get involved in it. Thank you.

10:34:52 --> 10:34:54

: Who would, uh...

10:34:54 --> 10:35:10

: If you don't get with me, I'll actually send you, because we record every single meeting, audio, video, including the charter briefing, poster, lasting stuff, plus I'll also send you links to our forecasting services.

10:35:11 --> 10:35:17

: It's February 3rd every year. I'll get all of that emailed over to you as fast as possible. Thank you.

10:35:20 --> 10:35:31

: So we've had three additional people come in since we originally started. So if you will give your name and the position to represent today.

10:35:31 --> 10:35:35

: Mike Devenich, District 6 Second Lieutenant.

10:35:37 --> 10:35:40

: I think children, at least for five or eight weeks.

10:35:43 --> 10:35:45

: Debbie Gordon?

10:35:46 --> 10:35:48

: Oh.

10:35:48 --> 10:35:51

: Debbie Jordan, could you introduce yourself?

10:35:55 --> 10:35:58

: Let's see. See you, Bob.

10:36:05 --> 10:36:08

: All right, God, we had...

10:36:08 --> 10:36:26

: Yes, ma'am. Um, so District 3A, we do a post every last year at the District Conferences, uh, where we recognize the members of the public that have ceased since the last District Conference. Uh, going along with what my chaplain said is, I think that this winter would be a great time to present some training.

10:36:26 --> 10:36:28

: on Post Everlasting.

10:36:28 --> 10:36:43

: right? So that those that are independent can can know right? See what it looks like, what the price look like. And you're absolutely right. Different different post different differently. But I'm in the Department of Texas. It was amazing how they how they did it down there.

10:36:43 --> 10:36:51

: But I think we provide additional training for our folks at midwinter. That'll help propagate what what Job 2 is looking for.

10:36:52 --> 10:36:54

: Product, thank you.

10:36:56 --> 10:37:03

: Yeah. So we have one class already for mid-winter, Mary Scott and Robbie.

10:37:03 --> 10:37:07

: You'll do great, Bobby.

10:37:11 --> 10:37:13

: I haven't explained it before.

10:37:17 --> 10:37:19

: Oh.

10:37:19 --> 10:37:21

: Alright, uh...

10:37:22 --> 10:37:27

: I'm gonna have Dan briefly cover the finance meeting that's coming up.

10:37:29 --> 10:37:31

: Okay, um...

10:37:33 --> 10:37:42

: We do have a finance meeting coming up next, the finance submission meeting coming up next Tuesday. Our biggest deal is to tackle the budget.

10:37:43 --> 10:37:51
: I know the elephant in the room is probably the \$80,000.

10:37:51 --> 10:37:54
: Donation we received.

10:37:54 --> 10:37:55
: Oh.

10:37:56 --> 10:38:02
: I don't know who was notified of that or when they were notified of that.

10:38:02 --> 10:38:05
: I'm not trying to throw anybody on the bus.

10:38:06 --> 10:38:16
: But I told Ray that the DEC ought to be notified. Now, whether the DEC was notified or not, I don't know. I never received any notification on it.

10:38:16 --> 10:38:17
: I don't know.

10:38:17 --> 10:38:19
: But, uh...

10:38:19 --> 10:38:28
: There was no restrictions on the money that was donated. So it's not like we have to use it in one pool or another.

10:38:28 --> 10:38:34
: As far as did we dip into that at all? I don't believe so.

10:38:34 --> 10:38:38
: It run through all the numbers there were.

10:38:38 --> 10:38:47
: There was a there was a deficit last year, but we still had reserves in our account.

10:38:47 --> 10:38:51
: So at the end of the year.

10:38:52 --> 10:38:58
: If you take out that 80 grand, we had about \$1,300 left in our account.

10:38:58 --> 10:39:05
: Okay, there was one other time during the year where we that we dim down to minus.

10:39:05 --> 10:39:16

: Well, we never went negative. We always were positive in our account, but you never can tell month to month if we're if we're gonna have enough to cover.

10:39:16 --> 10:39:19

: And that's why it's always good to have cushion.

10:39:19 --> 10:39:21

: Since we pulled out...

10:39:21 --> 10:39:27

: As soon as we pulled out Boise State, we pulled out, uh, baseball, we pulled out, uh.

10:39:27 --> 10:39:29

: Sons.

10:39:29 --> 10:39:30

: I don't know.

10:39:30 --> 10:39:33

: We've transferred that.

10:39:33 --> 10:39:37

: Now it's about 140,000.

10:39:37 --> 10:39:39

: Uh, for, uh...

10:39:39 --> 10:39:42

: Building fund, that's pulled out, that's in CD.

10:39:43 --> 10:39:46

: You need to have some kind of cushion.

10:39:46 --> 10:39:49

: Just because weird things happen.

10:39:49 --> 10:39:54

: And so I believe that was the reason that that.

10:39:54 --> 10:40:06

: Rick indicated to me, we might want to leave that money there for the time being, and then decide exactly what we want to do with it. Like I said, that money really hasn't been spent. It's still sitting there.

10:40:06 --> 10:40:17

: Uh, we're kind of using that as a buffer, because we don't have a buffer. Before, we used to have all these other accounts that people bought. Hey, we've got all this money! No, that money's already assigned.

10:40:17 --> 10:40:21

: It's in our operational account, and it's already assigned to other tasks.

10:40:21 --> 10:40:27

: Right now, if we pull all that money out, then we would have no fund for American.

10:40:27 --> 10:40:31

: And so I don't know if Rick relayed that.

10:40:31 --> 10:40:36

: how he intended to relay it, but that's how I related the thing.

10:40:36 --> 10:40:49

: We could also pull out, say, half that money and stick it somewhere, either stick it in a building fund or stick it with a retirement account so that it's separate and it's not in our operational account.

10:40:49 --> 10:40:57

: That's really no big deal to me. But that was the reason why Rick wanted to leave it in the operational account was to give us a buffer.

10:40:58 --> 10:41:01

: In case something happened, it would be on our control.

10:41:01 --> 10:41:10

: But like I said, right now, we still have that 80 grand. It's not like we've gone more than that \$80,000.

10:41:11 --> 10:41:15

: So I think that was the big thing that people were worried about.

10:41:15 --> 10:41:23

: And like I said, it would be good to at least keep some of that money in there for a buffer, but beyond that.

10:41:23 --> 10:41:32

: You know, if there's a good idea of what we should do with it or just wait for a meeting to determine what we should do with that.

10:41:32 --> 10:41:34

: Oh, that'd be fine, but.

10:41:34 --> 10:41:41

: I just wanted people to know that we didn't blow that 80 grand. That 80 grand wasn't there.

10:41:41 --> 10:41:48

: Like everything else, expenses are going up, income's coming down. If we don't find other funding resources.

10:41:48 --> 10:41:50

: Besides membership.

10:41:51 --> 10:41:52

: you know.

10:41:53 --> 10:42:04

: I don't ever want to say the sky is falling, but it's been a general decline for the last several years. Membership kind of turned around this year and looks good.

10:42:04 --> 10:42:06

: But can we maintain that?

10:42:06 --> 10:42:11

: And it's not the — it's not incoming membership. It's an intentional membership.

10:42:12 --> 10:42:13

: So, um...

10:42:14 --> 10:42:19

: That's really the biggest thing on that. Like I said, we're.

10:42:19 --> 10:42:24

: Still positive. I haven't, we haven't actually reconciled this last month.

10:42:24 --> 10:42:26

: But, uh.

10:42:26 --> 10:42:29

: Like I said, we should have about...

10:42:29 --> 10:42:35

: 4 grand in the account above and beyond that 8,000.

10:42:36 --> 10:42:42

: Is there going to be a Zoom option for your meeting on the 11th?

10:42:43 --> 10:42:45

: Are you gonna be there?

10:42:45 --> 10:42:46

: Can you do our...

10:42:46 --> 10:42:54

: Yes, there will be. I'm headache. What's due? I wanted to double check, because.

10:42:54 --> 10:42:57

: You almost need someone to kind of monitor that.

10:43:01 --> 10:43:09

: Any questions or discussion? I have a question. Yes. Carrie Moore, 5, any advice?

10:43:09 --> 10:43:13

: I'm somewhat eager to position that meeting open.

10:43:14 --> 10:43:24

: Is that something we can -- is that something we can attend, or is that limited? Typically, it would be the finance committee and the members who could attend.

10:43:24 --> 10:43:37

: I'm not saying that we have a lot of input, but we are probably going to reach out to a couple of districts and have them update their members for that.

10:43:40 --> 10:43:46

: Sam, I agree with you on needing a little bit of buffer.

10:43:46 --> 10:43:58

: I would also suggest what we do in other organizations that I'm a member of, is we kind of look at that interest in them. I don't think we need an \$80,000 buffer, and with the interest rates, if you put...

10:43:58 --> 10:44:05

: 5 or 10,000 back at your buffer, you can still get some pretty good money coming in, and it's due short-term.

10:44:05 --> 10:44:20

: Uh, CDs, so they could roll over, and that way, if you needed changes, you could. You don't need to go for a year for people to go for a short-term CD and still bring in a little more money. And you start looking at, while we're looking at membership, it doesn't take much money to make up on a membership, so.

10:44:22 --> 10:44:25

: We were talking about that in the math, uh...

10:44:26 --> 10:44:32

: It's such a pain to start new accounts, but as long as you, as long as we.

10:44:32 --> 10:44:34

: retain the the.

10:44:34 --> 10:44:49

: Separate paper accounts, line numbers as you will. It's easy to add to the takeaway of CD we already have. So we already have a CD for the building fund.

10:44:49 --> 10:45:03

: If we took a definite number and stuck it in there, earmarked it for something else, that would be easy to do in a CD. And we just have to break out how much interest goes to each account. But other than that.

10:45:03 --> 10:45:08

: That's a that's a minor thing. And that's an easy solution.

10:45:12 --> 10:45:17

: Um, are you saying...

10:45:17 --> 10:45:34

: We have money in the interest. 13,000 is what was taken over. And then we have 80,000 on top of that. That came in. And so basically, there's what we're not integrated. We don't have a valid budget yet. We don't really know.

10:45:34 --> 10:45:49

: Our budget wasn't approved, so we don't have a budget for this year. We're already on continuous resolution. Our budget is going to work on it on Tuesday, and our financing.

10:45:50 --> 10:45:52

: Okay, we're gonna have to deal with Raekwon.

10:45:52 --> 10:45:56

: No, not not for this year.

10:45:58 --> 10:46:00

: Okay.

10:46:02 --> 10:46:03

: Another...

10:46:03 --> 10:46:05

: Oh.

10:46:11 --> 10:46:12

: Next.

10:46:14 --> 10:46:16

: I have 80.

10:46:17 --> 10:46:19

: My street name.

10:46:23 --> 10:46:27

: We have a meeting listed to discuss Oakville Horner Regional Public.

10:46:28 --> 10:46:29

: He survived.

10:46:31 --> 10:46:33

: Hayden, if you will unmute.

10:46:33 --> 10:46:36

: And talk about Legion College, please.

10:46:40 --> 10:46:42

Hayden Woods: Good morning, everyone.

10:46:43 --> 10:46:48

Hayden Woods: Legion College will be held the 16th, 17th, and 18th of October in Spiro, Oklahoma.

10:46:43 --> 10:46:44
: Morning.

10:46:48 --> 10:46:54
Hayden Woods: Again, just because we're in one particular location does not mean that the entire state cannot attend.

10:46:54 --> 10:47:00
Hayden Woods: If you have someone, please send them. Talk to your post. This information has to get out.

10:47:00 --> 10:47:03
Hayden Woods: If it's sitting in this room, nothing will be done.

10:47:03 --> 10:47:07
Hayden Woods: You have to talk to your posts. Let them know.

10:47:10 --> 10:47:25
Hayden Woods: Again, we'll be charging \$50. We're looking at currently the three different hotels in the area. Once I have the fixed numbers for that, I will send it out and we will start taking those. But the application is online. Have them fill it out.

10:47:26 --> 10:47:29
Hayden Woods: The only question I have is the money.

10:47:29 --> 10:47:41
Hayden Woods: I would prefer that it be sent to the department, and the department would let me know who they have received, so that the department gets the money. I do not want to hold money. I do not want to hold checks.

10:47:41 --> 10:47:48
Hayden Woods: Uh, if I do, then I have to put it in another separate account, and we don't want to play that game, because things can get lost.

10:47:53 --> 10:47:56
: Does anybody have any questions?

10:47:57 --> 10:48:04
: Hayden, I do believe that we could send that to the department, and we'll have the department, uh, handle that for you.

10:48:04 --> 10:48:06
Hayden Woods: Sorry about that, Stark.

10:48:06 --> 10:48:08
: Okay, Dawn.

10:48:11 --> 10:48:13

: Question.

10:48:13 --> 10:48:18

: Well, Stewart and Carl Sadler didn't have a list of the training staff.

10:48:18 --> 10:48:31

Hayden Woods: Yes. Uh, nothing has changed with the exception of possibly one that I'm working with to get a new instructor. I'm looking also taking out the history course the very first day and replacing it with something else.

10:48:31 --> 10:48:35

Hayden Woods: I should have all that information in about two weeks.

10:48:37 --> 10:48:39

: Okay, thank you.

10:48:43 --> 10:48:44

: Nope.

10:48:46 --> 10:48:48

: Thank you, Terry.

10:48:50 --> 10:48:59

: Okay, so I already brought up that we need to discuss potential nominees for the Governor's Investment Commission during this year.

10:48:59 --> 10:49:06

: But, Farley, do you want to address that? What we do with the, uh...

10:49:06 --> 10:49:12

: Governor's Veterans Veterans Commission. We submit five nominees.

10:49:12 --> 10:49:16

: To the Oklahoma Secretary of.

10:49:16 --> 10:49:19

: That's safe. And then whoever the new.

10:49:19 --> 10:49:31

: governor is, then makes the decision on who will be representing Oklahoma, uh, American Legion on that, on that commission.

10:49:31 --> 10:49:35

: So the commission has really changed a lot since 2008.

10:49:35 --> 10:49:51

: With the current governor that we have, there used to be a state law that they had a representative of American Legion, the representative of the VFW, DAV, blind and paralyzed.

10:49:51 --> 10:49:54

: veterans and, uh...

10:49:55 --> 10:50:05

: But one other one, I, yeah, purple heart, you're right about that. And then, and then the.

10:50:05 --> 10:50:14

: The governor would then choose someone, plus a couple of at-large members with the National Guard.

10:50:14 --> 10:50:25

: That on that commission and the governor would choose that. The current governor decided to change that and he didn't like.

10:50:25 --> 10:50:32

: and just arbitrarily fired. There was a dispute with the.

10:50:32 --> 10:50:34

: Uh, with the, uh...

10:50:34 --> 10:50:40

: The CEO at the time fired him, and then, uh...

10:50:41 --> 10:50:47

: The other, all of the veteran service groups.

10:50:47 --> 10:51:01

: Including that except for the Legion withdrew then said that we're not going to support what you're doing now. And then changed the law or changed the appointees two years ago.

10:51:01 --> 10:51:04

: Joshua Estrell.

10:51:05 --> 10:51:07

: Oh, there you go.

10:51:07 --> 10:51:10

: Who's the state senator from Hawaii?

10:51:11 --> 10:51:24

: Barbara. Brenda Stanley. Brenda Stanley then passed a law saying that the governor can appoint kind of whoever he or she wants.

10:51:24 --> 10:51:28

: And then so we have all at large members now.

10:51:28 --> 10:51:30

: So, uh...

10:51:30 --> 10:51:36

: I'm not sure the the process.

10:51:36 --> 10:51:53

: The Legion was able to submit their five nominees when Brett Martin was the State Commander and Governor Stitt picked him as the Legion representative, but he's the only veteran service officer representing a.

10:51:53 --> 10:52:08

: group that's on there now. All the other members are at large. So what I would recommend is that we come up with 5 people who would be willing to to represent.

10:52:08 --> 10:52:12

: The Legion on the Veterans Commission.

10:52:12 --> 10:52:26

: But it's going to depend on who the governor is. So if Robin gets in, he's a veteran and he's pretty veteran friendly.

10:52:26 --> 10:52:39

: uh, go back to the old way of, of, of doing that, or, or he may not. With, with Maisie, I'm not sure he... according to the other veteran groups, uh, he is willing to...

10:52:39 --> 10:52:52

: to do that also, but I haven't heard anything, uh, from, from him. So just as a preparatory point, I would, uh, recommend that, Commander, that you form a, a, uh.

10:52:54 --> 10:53:12

: A committee maybe to come up with five names and to hold that in abeyance and then we'll have Oklahoma Secretary of State and to look at the law, at the new law that was passed if we still do that.

10:53:13 --> 10:53:18

: If the, because I'm not sure with the current law, there's Stanley and.

10:53:18 --> 10:53:25

: And Josh West asked if they, if they do that or the governor just as quickly.

10:53:25 --> 10:53:33

: So that's an uncertain thing, but it's better to be prepared than not.

10:53:33 --> 10:53:48

: So that was a big issue. And I think one of the reasons that we got membership problems for several years is that the other veteran groups, when I'm a life member of the VFW and the DAV, when I go visit those groups, you know, the first thing that they ask me is.

10:53:48 --> 10:54:05

: Why are you Legion people not supporting us? And the guy in the governor's office is blah, blah, blah. And that's not good. And our members aren't going to join the Legion.

10:54:05 --> 10:54:15

: the guys are are supporting an individual that we don't like, and it was a negative, a negative influence. So I think that.

10:54:15 --> 10:54:30

: That's probably something that we need to be ready for. Okay, probably the senior officers get together and kind of go over that. That's what traditionally has passed in past years.

10:54:30 --> 10:54:34

: Check with the Secretary of State.

10:54:34 --> 10:54:42

: After the election, and then to see how they measure, you know.

10:54:43 --> 10:54:45

: I think we, um...

10:54:45 --> 10:54:52

: The members or will they all be at large? That's what it is now with the exception of the.

10:54:52 --> 10:54:54

: of the region, okay?

10:54:54 --> 10:55:01

: And if that's the way it is, then we use that list and the governor has five names.

10:55:02 --> 10:55:05

: Yeah, absolutely.

10:55:07 --> 10:55:16

: Is there, is there anybody to say that has a central name or two that they would like for?

10:55:16 --> 10:55:21

: Myself and my soon to be committee.

10:55:22 --> 10:55:23

: Hold on.

10:55:23 --> 10:55:36

: I'm Bobby Lawrence with CISB. I ascribe to . Therefore, I would like to put it forward as a possibility for Larry Watts in the year to come back.

10:55:36 --> 10:55:43

: Yeah, no, I'm not volunteering me, I'm volunteering you.

10:55:43 --> 10:55:58

: I would recommend that Rex ISP put on that. He's going to focus on a national legislative committee.

10:55:58 --> 10:56:10

: appointment. He did the same job in the civilian career with the Oakland Highway Patrol, and he was the legislative representative for .

10:56:10 --> 10:56:11

: Thank you.

10:56:11 --> 10:56:19

: an experience at the state capitol. I think we're representatives.

10:56:19 --> 10:56:27

: And he would be able to represent us in a positive way. He lives in Oklahoma City.

10:56:27 --> 10:56:34

: Where we in Edmond, the subsidiary fire and would be available.

10:56:36 --> 10:56:38

: There we go.

10:56:38 --> 10:56:46

: I know the governor made the decision, but I've been on the legislative committee for five years.

10:56:46 --> 10:57:01

: And I have never seen or worked with anyone as excited and as committed as Rex was last year in DC. He had gifts for each senator and congressman that we met with.

10:57:01 --> 10:57:12

: He had certificates. He was so organized. I had an agenda before we ever went to the UC. And again, I've been doing it for five years with different leadership going with us.

10:57:12 --> 10:57:19

: And no one had ever organized my trip. It was my first time dealing with racism.

10:57:19 --> 10:57:24

: And I was just in awe of the way I did it.

10:57:24 --> 10:57:32

: So that's so far at least . Rex Isis's name is .

10:57:33 --> 10:57:35

: Yeah, but with 7.

10:57:35 --> 10:57:42

: I would even volunteer my.

10:57:43 --> 10:57:47

: Look up Michael Kirk in a box.

10:57:48 --> 10:57:59

: That would be good. I would volunteer my name because .

10:57:59 --> 10:58:02

: That would be as my perk. Yes.

10:58:02 --> 10:58:18

: Once again, I want to remind everybody, it's good that we come up with the names, but the VDC is the one that has to make the appointment, so we need to make sure that we don't bring this up that we can see.

10:58:18 --> 10:58:33

: Evelyn, what Charlie said, it's been a while since I looked at it. The law did change. I think it did change after the department put on there. There have been quite a few changes. Vivian and I talked about it. We have two of them. One example, currently we have the department on audit.

10:58:33 --> 10:58:52

: that department has been removed, but in our meeting, in our Constitution, we feel like this government won't find a dude just because, not because it was required. So, what I'm trying to say is, the law has changed, it's been a while since I looked at it, but we do need to go back and look at that, because it will require changes to our Constitution and bylaws.

10:58:53 --> 10:58:58

: Uh, so we need to, when we update our constitution bylaws, we need to update it to the current law.

10:59:04 --> 10:59:06

: Any other discussion?

10:59:09 --> 10:59:20

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: Charlie has sent an email, and I'm not sure if you all received it Simon Marquez, F5CA: about some potentially recommended training from Nashville.

10:59:20 --> 10:59:24

: Arlene, would you like to discuss that?

10:59:24 --> 10:59:28

: The, uh, national, every, every year, uh.

10:59:28 --> 10:59:35

: Everybody, all of the NEC members and all of the full-time staff have to.

10:59:35 --> 10:59:45

: I'll watch a 30-minute video on toxic workplace and ***** harassment in the workplace.

10:59:45 --> 11:00:02

: and then sign a acknowledgement form that they have had this had this training. So I talked with the National Edison about that, and he said that all departments should.

11:00:02 --> 11:00:18

: Should do that. And I've talked with the with human resources and asked them and said, hey, that video that you guys have, how can we get that? And they said, well, you can't because we signed the contract and we got that and we would share that.

11:00:19 --> 11:00:36

: But in the medical field, I know at the clinic where I work and surely would be in the medical field, everybody in the medical field has to every year undergo mandatory training in ***** harassment and toxic workplace environment and sign something that they.

11:00:36 --> 11:00:46

: and the McDonald's reform that they know that they do that. And it's risk management that puts that out, because if you have somebody that becomes a loose cannon.

11:00:46 --> 11:00:58

: If our... if our commander, you know, falls against their head, and then all of a sudden starts being... doing people, or doing inappropriate things, then that's...

11:00:58 --> 11:01:09

: on, on, on her, or the Vice Commander, or God can give with the East and West, or whatever you have. But the what that does that protects.

11:01:10 --> 11:01:21

: lawsuits that this was an individual that did that. In the medical field, they have a company called Relias.

11:01:21 --> 11:01:34

: that, uh, you may have... surely may have heard that. Most medical people have that. And, uh, I looked it up, and you can get a... a video start for, like, uh, \$300.

11:01:34 --> 11:01:37

: And this can be mandatory that all the.

11:01:37 --> 11:01:51

: Legion leadership down to the post level. I would recommend that, Andrew, because in the past years we've had, even with a small post where you have.

11:01:51 --> 11:01:55

: A wise commander or somebody that's making decisions.

11:01:55 --> 11:02:01

: inappropriate comments or actions with with.

11:02:01 --> 11:02:15

: Legion members of the opposite sect, and sometimes from the same section that they and then that was that had to be investigated, and and that person put on.

11:02:15 --> 11:02:27

: suspension, and, you know, a plan of improvement made, and, uh, things like that. So I think that's something that we've... that we've had. We've had... have had female.

11:02:27 --> 11:02:31

: Employees at, uh, F...

11:02:31 --> 11:02:39

: at the department that had adverse events that took place.

11:02:39 --> 11:02:54

: So far, nothing has been, has come from that. We don't want to take a big chance in the future of something happening, and then somebody filing a lawsuit, then the department gets.

11:02:54 --> 11:03:01

: involved. And then the attorney would then get national.

11:03:02 --> 11:03:15

: It's just a common sense thing. It's unfortunate that we have to do that. You could think that veterans wouldn't do stuff like that, but when you look at the Army times, you know, there's...

11:03:15 --> 11:03:21

: you know, senior ACOs and senior officers that are being.

11:03:21 --> 11:03:23

: Brought up on charges.

11:03:23 --> 11:03:25

: All over the place and that.

11:03:25 --> 11:03:40

: And so this, I think, would be a risk management thing. It would be easily done and could be easily, you could take the video to the post or to district meetings.

11:03:40 --> 11:03:56

: Like the district seven meeting or Dave to your district six meeting and then everybody There, you just go, okay, now we're going to have diversity training. Everybody sits and walks with it and then you pass the form out and everybody signs it.

11:03:56 --> 11:04:03

: They said, okay, if you mess up, it's going to be on you and not on me.

11:04:03 --> 11:04:06

: Oh, they're not going to be suing the department.

11:04:06 --> 11:04:16

: And on the medical field, I know Jordan probably did put all this stuff all the time. But he just didn't have any choice but to shut up.

11:04:16 --> 11:04:18

: Find more.

11:04:18 --> 11:04:21

: I'm trying to find my keys.

11:04:21 --> 11:04:26

: So that would be, that would be my recommendation that we do this.

11:04:26 --> 11:04:29

: They have future editors.

11:04:29 --> 11:04:30

: Yes, uh-huh.

11:04:31 --> 11:04:43

: That's a lawsuit. And so people would know what they do. And at the end, you know, Burley comes in and says, well, I'm the commander and you're going to, you know, buy me a drink now.

11:04:44 --> 11:04:49

: Yeah, in medicine and in orthopedics.

11:04:49 --> 11:04:51

: Thank you.

11:04:52 --> 11:04:53

: You tell them.

11:04:54 --> 11:05:00

: The risk of sounding negative, I've got some reservations on it.

11:05:00 --> 11:05:02

: Two or three times.

11:05:02 --> 11:05:10

: As far as preventing lawsuits, you're not going to prevent lawsuits. It doesn't matter what you do. The only question is whether or not you're going to prevail in that lawsuit.

11:05:10 --> 11:05:16

: And the way that you're going to prevail or not prevail is not necessarily because somebody watched the film and signed a piece of paper.

11:05:16 --> 11:05:19

: It's gonna be because of what actually went into it when it knocked her.

11:05:19 --> 11:05:20

: And...

11:05:20 --> 11:05:26

: National was put out several times and we're still a little bit reluctant to do it.

11:05:26 --> 11:05:31

: But the posts are an independent entity and.

11:05:31 --> 11:05:43

: we need... I'm kind of hesitant about putting out mandatory stuff. We're gonna say everybody in the department's gonna do this, everybody in the district's gonna do this, and the post is gonna do that, and...

11:05:43 --> 11:05:48

: The first question I would have is how you're going to go back and enforce that.

11:05:48 --> 11:05:54

: And that's going to be a real problem making anything mandatory. Second thing is, if post is where the problem is at.

11:05:54 --> 11:06:09

: The best way for us to not be sued is to stay out of it and then hold family like we're supposed to. It's a disciplinary action to take back. That person should have filed a charge against the person, and it shouldn't be taken. So the more we get into their business, the more chance we're going to take over liability for that.

11:06:09 --> 11:06:12

: We're going to go in and assume that liability.

11:06:13 --> 11:06:18

: That said, I'd like to see the film. I think it'd be interesting.

11:06:18 --> 11:06:32

: Uh, but then again, I've been really hesitant to make it mandatory to enforce the rules, not only enough, but if nothing else, I'm not sure it's going to necessarily keep us from having a lawsuit. It may or may not end up having us, uh.

11:06:32 --> 11:06:51

: As far as the form is concerned, I'm sure Stark would like to have another file to set up so he can set up more files for everybody who's watched that film, especially if we're trying to protect the department. We're going to have everybody in the post level do that. So, and when I looked at the form, I did look at the form and started sending out.

11:06:51 --> 11:06:58

: And it says that they're going to report that. If they report something and it's not done, that's what's going to get you in trouble.

11:06:58 --> 11:07:00

: Uh, if they don't afford that.

11:07:00 --> 11:07:05

: Then the chances of you not getting in trouble is pretty good whether you've watched the film or not watched the film.

11:07:06 --> 11:07:17

: With all that said, like I said, I hate to be negative about it, but I would be very hesitant to make it mandatory. I'd be very hesitant to start another list of paper that we need to try to keep up with.

11:07:18 --> 11:07:30

: One of the things that we learned in business a long time ago is the thing that gets you in trouble more than anything in a lawsuit is when you don't follow your own rules. So if you start making these rules, then you don't follow these rules.

11:07:30 --> 11:07:33

: You're in a real problem.

11:07:33 --> 11:07:36

: One way you stay out of that...

11:07:36 --> 11:07:49

: Just use a little bit of common sense on it. And the last thing I'd like to say, we talk about workplace, so forth. What is the workplace for most folks? And maybe we're talking about a meeting. Most of the time, what you're going to find is a bar.

11:07:49 --> 11:08:03

: And that's when everybody asked me what the biggest problem I see is Judge Advocates Bar. But basically, the bar, what I keep telling everybody, the bar is not a legion program. The bar should be separate from the legion, and they need to keep it separate from the legion.

11:08:03 --> 11:08:18

: But the bottom line on it for the average post We meet once a month and we play nominals on Tuesday, Thursday morning. So as far as workplace, we don't have a workplace. We didn't even have that workplace. So when we start talking about workplace environment.

11:08:19 --> 11:08:28

: We don't really have a workplace environment for most of us. Now, we do have a meeting for stuff. Department is different. We had a couple of employees at the department level, you know.

11:08:28 --> 11:08:49

: That might be something that you want to do. So when you start pushing it on down below the department level, for most of us, the only employees we have is the barmaid, or the bartenders, or something like that. That's going to be another problem. So I would look pretty seriously about making it mandatory. I think if we can get a good film, and we'll do the recommendation, have people look at it, I think that might be a good idea.

11:08:50 --> 11:09:00

: Maybe have it done at department and then recommendation for the district and for the post.

11:09:00 --> 11:09:07

: Training at Summer Convention.

11:09:07 --> 11:09:20

: I'm not always really good with words. I teach math, so I tread delicately, and please excuse me if I don't say this correctly, but I have been asked by female that.

11:09:20 --> 11:09:28

: to incorporate some kind of training into our next. And then about.

11:09:28 --> 11:09:31

: how to file complaints.

11:09:31 --> 11:09:33

: And...

11:09:33 --> 11:09:41

: It wasn't at the post level. It didn't involve bars. It involved, um...

11:09:42 --> 11:09:46

: people when visiting departments.

11:09:46 --> 11:09:50

: You know, being called little lady. Um...

11:09:50 --> 11:09:52

: being, uh...

11:09:53 --> 11:09:58

: uncomfortable to the point that they would not enter post 12.

11:09:58 --> 11:10:02

: without other people there.

11:10:02 --> 11:10:03

: um...

11:10:03 --> 11:10:10

: There is an atmosphere in the State of Oklahoma outside of the post at.

11:10:10 --> 11:10:13

: At a higher level.

11:10:14 --> 11:10:18

: For our female vets, they're very uncomfortable.

11:10:18 --> 11:10:21

: And if you're not aware of that.

11:10:21 --> 11:10:24

: You're probably not a female.

11:10:24 --> 11:10:30

: There is a problem, and a video probably isn't going to make it right.

11:10:31 --> 11:10:37

: But we have a problem, and we need to figure out, as leaders.

11:10:37 --> 11:10:39

: How to make our bedroom.

11:10:39 --> 11:10:41

: comfortable...

11:10:42 --> 11:10:45

: Wherever they need to be.

11:10:45 --> 11:10:52

: There's a lot of female vets that want our department moved, because they are not comfortable going to the department, and that's a shame.

11:10:53 --> 11:10:55

: I'll leave it there.

11:10:55 --> 11:11:03

: Mike Devonage, 6A. We, as an individual that is doing these things, and they are -.

11:11:03 --> 11:11:05

: a...

11:11:05 --> 11:11:12

: Just call us hypothetical. Or a state leader, why are we not -.

11:11:12 --> 11:11:15

: doing something to.

11:11:15 --> 11:11:17

: address this.

11:11:18 --> 11:11:24

: I've had several emails talking about this exact same situation.

11:11:27 --> 11:11:29

: Oh.

11:11:29 --> 11:11:31

: Wouldn't this...

11:11:31 --> 11:11:36

: That's a possible, uh, path forward, and it helps your motivation.

11:11:36 --> 11:11:47

: If any individual or on visiting departments in locations like that experience anything that could cause them to be uncomfortable.

11:11:47 --> 11:11:58

: Take it back to their post leadership, you know, back to their post, and put it up as a formal notice, messaging it through district of the department, this incident has happened.

11:11:58 --> 11:12:04

: Thus making them basically written charges coming from that person and therefore then a.

11:12:04 --> 11:12:19

: you know, a meeting would have to be brought together in order to basically have a trial on it. So it's the interaction thing, and then therefore put forward repercussions. All of those things are basically already in our Constitution bylaws. It's just the.

11:12:19 --> 11:12:35

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: codifying the method of doing it that might be needed. That's how we at that post 55 down in 60, have it said, if Simon Marquez, F5CA: our Senior Vice Commander, Rachel Bradley, without any of the other posts. She's also inserting this district management plan.

11:12:35 --> 11:12:44

: feels uncomfortable or feels harassed in any way, she immediately brings it back to our focus page. We stand ready to contact each individual level.

11:12:44 --> 11:12:55

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: to back them all the way. Great for a charge. I mean holding each other accountable is Simon Marquez, F5CA: one of the things we actually say to every single meeting, and therefore this to me mostly is a.

11:12:55 --> 11:13:04

: we need to organize and point out the structure that should be able to follow to protect those that are feeling corrupt. It's not...

11:13:04 --> 11:13:10

: just for females in my mindset, because I've seen and experienced it in both directions, things like that.

11:13:11 --> 11:13:16

: you know, we we we stand ready to support each other. Most of this should be a.

11:13:16 --> 11:13:21

: Take what we have and enforce it and train people on how to follow it.

11:13:22 --> 11:13:26

: That's just my two cents on it.

11:13:32 --> 11:13:35

: Thank you, Luke. Bye bye.

11:13:36 --> 11:13:40

: I've been an investigator. The EEO was my life counselor in February.

11:13:41 --> 11:13:44

: I'm listening to the issues here.

11:13:44 --> 11:13:46

: And the issues we really believe chips out.

11:13:46 --> 11:13:49

: You can't really push this there over to...

11:13:50 --> 11:13:52

: You have to start at the top.

11:13:52 --> 11:13:54

: We'll start at the top of the mic.

11:13:54 --> 11:13:59

: And you're talking about the training. The training is coming two weeks.

11:13:59 --> 11:14:05

: It has a starlink top, and it is also inherent inside of our file.

11:14:05 --> 11:14:09

: And it's there's everybody who should be able to expect that news.

11:14:09 --> 11:14:12

: Okay? And all of us do here.

11:14:12 --> 11:14:15

: The people that are causing these issues.

11:14:18 --> 11:14:27

: No, it's not doing a purpose. But as you ask me, yeah, the leadership should license them. So we should should be more than signing something.

11:14:33 --> 11:14:35

: But it doesn't mean that.

11:14:46 --> 11:15:01

: And so when I look at this, I understand that people are uncomfortable. And sometimes it's the people that's uncomfortable. So we start talking about being able to go and start doing things to people just because somebody .

11:15:01 --> 11:15:03

: You gotta really be careful.

11:15:03 --> 11:15:08

: So one thing is your leadership should be doing all these things and signing off faithfully.

11:15:08 --> 11:15:15

: not a problem. When you start trying to force it again on Hill and Hill, Hill will join again. It does become a problem.

11:15:15 --> 11:15:22

: But you should have or an office at the top that people who vote.

11:15:22 --> 11:15:28

: From the post, right? And say, this is where you pop up.

11:15:28 --> 11:15:30

: And then we have the ones.

11:15:30 --> 11:15:34

: So everything is going to move on April, October, October.

11:15:34 --> 11:15:44

: I don't see that in any place where it's shifting. We're creating something that gives you a positive outcome.

11:15:45 --> 11:15:48

: That puts people into our country or somebody else.

11:15:49 --> 11:15:56

: But you know, if you can be a human being, this is true, but you all have to treat each other differently.

11:15:56 --> 11:15:59

: And that is going to come out.

11:15:59 --> 11:16:05

: And a period of leave would be published as well as our comparison from after the shift.

11:16:05 --> 11:16:07

: So what we have.

11:16:07 --> 11:16:09

: So that, um...

11:16:14 --> 11:16:29

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: that \$300 that we would pay for the video. Is that a one and done? Or do they update it as always these updated blogs?

11:16:29 --> 11:16:34

: I think the builder in the the updates are.

11:16:35 --> 11:16:42

: are usually usually done. The one at National, the six years I've been showing up there, it's.

11:16:42 --> 11:16:43

: Okay, bye.

11:16:43 --> 11:16:50

: But they, I'm sure all of these groups have the ability to update some.

11:16:51 --> 11:16:57

: And this is a common thing that's done in business, especially in the healthcare field.

11:16:57 --> 11:17:00

: Yeah, if you have a warrant to do the same thing on it.

11:17:01 --> 11:17:06

: And new government over in the state.

11:17:07 --> 11:17:08

: And it was, yes.

11:17:08 --> 11:17:13

: So it's a common difference, frankly, so I agree with you.

11:17:14 --> 11:17:19

: that the senior leaders could.

11:17:19 --> 11:17:29

: Should do that and then offer it district. You see district is not really organized enough.

11:17:30 --> 11:17:32

: What is that number that's up?

11:17:32 --> 11:17:38

: And then you'll propose. Dale is right.

11:17:38 --> 11:17:42

: It's all with the guards that were pretty.

11:17:46 --> 11:17:47

: Probably.

11:17:47 --> 11:17:56

: Buster Department Chaplain, would it be feasible to offer a block of instruction at.

11:17:57 --> 11:18:03

: Midwinter or summer conference on toxic workplace and harassment in the workplace.

11:18:03 --> 11:18:06

: So I have it set up, but we're...

11:18:07 --> 11:18:09

: Knows it.

11:18:09 --> 11:18:12
: Are not aware of the of the.

11:18:13 --> 11:18:14
: The problem?

11:18:15 --> 11:18:24
: Uh, they could come and find out just what is entailed, uh, some of the information that Charlie has received on...

11:18:24 --> 11:18:27
: Uh, national level.

11:18:27 --> 11:18:32
: Ask someone certified or qualified to teach.

11:18:32 --> 11:18:34
: A kayak.

11:18:34 --> 11:18:37
: On toxic workplace and harassment.

11:18:41 --> 11:18:51
: Before you go, we are going to . Bobby, we've already taken your word that you have to tell us it is guarded in front.

11:18:51 --> 11:18:52
: Thank you.

11:18:53 --> 11:18:54
: Okay, how are you?

11:18:56 --> 11:19:03
: So I don't remember, just to be clear, in the Physics VA Expander, the last 15 years I've worked as a special pilot student.

11:19:03 --> 11:19:05
: Um...

11:19:05 --> 11:19:12
: for both Department of the Army and Department of New York. And what I would, what I would caution, what I would caution is.

11:19:12 --> 11:19:17
: Three ways to get fired. Lose a tank, kill a soldier, or ***** up a shark. Fine.

11:19:17 --> 11:19:25
: Right, that's what we tell commanders. So if, like Dale said, if you assume a level of responsibility.

11:19:26 --> 11:19:38

: then you assume a level of responsibility as leadership. Well, I would be cautious about what level of responsibility the department as a whole or district leadership assume.

11:19:39 --> 11:19:45

: The gentleman here is very, very, very much correct. I think an awareness campaign.

11:19:45 --> 11:19:50

: Pushing it down to the post would be a great idea.

11:19:50 --> 11:19:52

: Right? For no fairies.

11:19:52 --> 11:19:59

: But I would be cautious about assuming some level of responsibility of, if you do this, we will do that.

11:19:59 --> 11:20:08

: That's, I'm telling you, you need more than one commander to get fired because they screwed up a sharp or a savage complaint.

11:20:08 --> 11:20:09

: So...

11:20:09 --> 11:20:22

: I think views are great. I think classroom discussions are great. I think presentations are great. I think something like that would be good. I would just be cautious about.

11:20:22 --> 11:20:26

: assuming a level of responsibility at the department level.

11:20:26 --> 11:20:33

: If you don't present it as an as an awareness. And how do you get your experiences out of both?

11:20:33 --> 11:20:36

: Or in, or in general life.

11:20:36 --> 11:20:47

: Here are some state resources, here are some local resources, and if you need help with us to help you connect you to those resources, that's what we can, that's where we can fit in, not where.

11:20:47 --> 11:20:54

: we as a body of the American Legion are going to take any type of action.

11:20:54 --> 11:20:55

: I thought I'm...

11:20:55 --> 11:20:57

: You're welcome.

11:20:58 --> 11:21:05
: All right. So the question seems to be responding. I think we've heard.
I agree with that.

11:21:06 --> 11:21:08
: division, but, um...

11:21:09 --> 11:21:13
: You've got to see where there's too many different ones.

11:21:13 --> 11:21:17
: And they just and there's too many different.

11:21:17 --> 11:21:19
: It's out of this facility design.

11:21:19 --> 11:21:25
: that work in their own way. They do their own thing. They do, you know,
like you said, boss.

11:21:25 --> 11:21:27
: Things happen to be fine.

11:21:27 --> 11:21:30
: If it happens, it goes through a medical reason.

11:21:31 --> 11:21:35
: So the thing is, you've really got to be careful about what it feels
like.

11:21:35 --> 11:21:40
: It's my, my recommendation is to use your instrument.

11:21:40 --> 11:21:44
: And we told what is there not going to do.

11:21:44 --> 11:21:54
: You want to make sure your district kind of understands that this is
what we're pushing because every year we got a different one or whatever
the case may be.

11:21:54 --> 11:22:01
: Um, you know, we have to tell people to treat people with dignity and
respect. We absolutely do not like each other.

11:22:01 --> 11:22:12
: And what if they get into something at the facility or the coast? You
know, you're telling the people at the coast level that's the response of
the queue.

11:22:12 --> 11:22:14
: for being retrievable.

11:22:14 --> 11:22:26

: Most of the commanders are closed because everybody stepped back. So there is no training that went before that.

11:22:26 --> 11:22:34

: So where do you want to be as far as on the level of this organization?

11:22:34 --> 11:22:40

: The biggest thing is just making sure you keep all of you wherever you go.

11:22:40 --> 11:22:50

: Period. Maybe some science can say that. And once you do that, you know, coverage is just, people know what the rules are.

11:22:50 --> 11:22:58

: Don't, don't, there's all of that up there. You can do those type of things with those folks. You can say they've already done it.

11:22:58 --> 11:23:06

: So, you know, do you have a sense of awareness? Exactly, awareness. So.

11:23:08 --> 11:23:16

: The question that I've got.

11:23:16 --> 11:23:23

: From the beginning of this, you had mentioned that several people came to you about it. What actions were taken at that point?

11:23:24 --> 11:23:30

: Did we look into it? Yes. I didn't know. We did that. Good.

11:23:33 --> 11:23:39

: Where are you walking? 6 feet.

11:23:39 --> 11:23:54

: I suggest to you that anyone who has been involved in any capacity in the active forces or the reserve forces in the last quarter of a century has had training up on training.

11:23:54 --> 11:23:56

: I'm more afraid.

11:23:56 --> 11:24:04

: where we fall short is in the accountability. And there's a very set process in the active.

11:24:04 --> 11:24:10

: I'm not sure there's a set process in the American Legion for pursuing it.

11:24:10 --> 11:24:15

: I've experienced with our district commander that holds leadership.

11:24:15 --> 11:24:17

: What's the problem?

11:24:17 --> 11:24:20

: And had to deal with that accordingly.

11:24:21 --> 11:24:25

: Consequently, if you have a situation.

11:24:25 --> 11:24:28

: It was mentioned a long ago at a higher level.

11:24:28 --> 11:24:34

: You go back and report that your post, and then send it up to Ken, or to address at that level.

11:24:34 --> 11:24:40

: I suggest, if there's not a policy, any type of urban craft that can be modified.

11:24:40 --> 11:24:51

: Did those complaints go to the judge advocate. and an investigator can be appointed to look into that rather than stirring the pot within the post.

11:24:56 --> 11:24:57

: Okay.

11:24:57 --> 11:24:59

: Bill, I ain't a good advocate.

11:25:01 --> 11:25:07

: We need to, I need to back up a little bit, go back to what Karen was talking about. There's been a real problem in the American League.

11:25:10 --> 11:25:15

: I'm trying to change the Constitution to comply with national.

11:25:15 --> 11:25:20

: National, when you call National and you talk to National about the problems that we're talking about.

11:25:20 --> 11:25:28

: They refer you back to Article 4, and it says each post in the American Legion shall be the judge of its own membership.

11:25:28 --> 11:25:34

: Subject to the Constitution. The bottom line is it falls back to the polling whether we like it or not.

11:25:34 --> 11:25:41

: Our Constitution, in my opinion, is pretty well written as far as what we need to do to do this.

11:25:41 --> 11:25:47

: So then I can follow charge. They can go down to the point of even expelling the person from the.

11:25:47 --> 11:25:49

: American Legion.

11:25:49 --> 11:25:55

: If it's not to that extent, they have the right of somebody just being a problem.

11:25:55 --> 11:25:59

: They can borrow them from both facilities for 90 days.

11:25:59 --> 11:26:01

: Even without a parent.

11:26:01 --> 11:26:07

: If you've got an officer that's not doing their job, they can remove them from office within 30 days.

11:26:07 --> 11:26:13

: Simply stated, what Nationalists said is, the post voted them in, the post voted them out.

11:26:13 --> 11:26:23

: Well, the post has the authority and the ability to take care of most of the problems, and that's really the possibility in life. Somebody just said, well, the problem is, in post leadership.

11:26:23 --> 11:26:31

: And I agree with that over there. That guy is probably in there. I know our commander down there has been there for 10 years, but nobody else wants a job.

11:26:31 --> 11:26:42

: So we need to educate them and we need to help them. I get calls, Sergei gets calls, all the commanders get calls about three, four, five times a year.

11:26:42 --> 11:26:45

: We got a problem, somebody needs to go down and investigate this.

11:26:45 --> 11:26:48

: Hammer that the department has.

11:26:48 --> 11:26:52

: is to suspend or revoke.

11:26:52 --> 11:26:53

: Charter.

11:26:53 --> 11:26:56

: If they are violating.

11:26:56 --> 11:27:01

: Or Constitution bylaws will go national. That's it, folks. That's the power that you got.

11:27:01 --> 11:27:06

: Now, I have thought about the fact, maybe we need to put something in our Constitution.

11:27:06 --> 11:27:11

: That says, if a post is not taking care of business.

11:27:12 --> 11:27:24

: then we can go back in and revoke the charter or suspend the charter. Most of us don't do that anyway. But right now, there's pretty little that you can find. We've got planks right now. Somebody says, go down and investigate this.

11:27:24 --> 11:27:27

: Well, in order to investigate this.

11:27:27 --> 11:27:34

: We have to have charges, and they've got to say specifically which article and which section has been violated.

11:27:34 --> 11:27:37

: It also has to have a high fall standard.

11:27:37 --> 11:27:44

: It's just an average member can't do that. It has to be somebody between the department and the district, I mean, the department and the post.

11:27:44 --> 11:27:49

: We'll have to be three folks within the department. We'll have to be the DEC that does that.

11:27:49 --> 11:27:59

: But their hands are kind of tied. Then it gets back to the other question about, well, what if it's not a post problem? Or what if the post is not going to do anything? Like I say, right now, we don't have anything.

11:28:00 --> 11:28:05

: As far as taking action against a department officer.

11:28:05 --> 11:28:08

: About the only animal we got.

11:28:08 --> 11:28:10

: Yes, too.

11:28:10 --> 11:28:12

: Removal from Office.

11:28:12 --> 11:28:15

: Because we don't have the authority.

11:28:15 --> 11:28:18

: At the department level to expel them.

11:28:18 --> 11:28:27

: That is reserved at the post level. So if you've got a person in a post and the post ain't going to do anything, don't have them kind of **** ***

11:28:27 --> 11:28:33

: We might be able to go in and talk to them. We might be able to go in and counsel them. We might be able to go in and do different things.

11:28:34 --> 11:28:41

: We might go in and talk to the coach, but if the coach was not willing to handle it, we've kind of got a problem in the American Legion, in my opinion.

11:28:41 --> 11:28:47

: It bothered me a little bit when they say that we need to move the department headquarters.

11:28:47 --> 11:28:54

: in the current location because people don't want to go there. I can understand them not wanting to go to Polk Square.

11:28:54 --> 11:28:56

: Because I understand that there may be a problem.

11:28:56 --> 11:29:05

: However, I would think we'll start with handling the garment, and I hate to think that people don't want to go in to that particular area.

11:29:05 --> 11:29:08

: Unless I get someone to walk by the other area.

11:29:08 --> 11:29:11

: So that follows a little bit of the same thing.

11:29:11 --> 11:29:15

: Can't go to the department. Oh, I don't disagree that we need to move it.

11:29:15 --> 11:29:31

: We definitely need to move it. We need to have our own building. And if we had our own building, we could probably get some grants and other things from the counties. I mean, we got \$60,000 down a lot, folks. Those 88 got \$300,000. But you gotta own the building.

11:29:31 --> 11:29:32

: Okay.

11:29:32 --> 11:29:40

: So the bottom line is we need to do it. We've got some real problems at department level. I don't know what you're going to do to fix it, to be honest with you.

11:29:40 --> 11:29:45

: But we can't go in and have a big hammer. Thank you.

11:29:48 --> 11:29:52

: Are you sure?

11:29:52 --> 11:29:56

: I am one of the people that is not comfortable at Post 12.

11:29:56 --> 11:30:02

: I have been in Brett Martin's crosshairs And I do not.

11:30:02 --> 11:30:11

: I try my hardest not to go there. Please refrain from being calling. This is not an East Executive Committee meeting. No names, no specifics.

11:30:11 --> 11:30:15

: I apologize. I did not know that.

11:30:15 --> 11:30:27

: I was wondering why we were, like, dancing around the subject. Okay, so, um, I'm one of the ones that's not comfortable there, but I do believe that you guys are discussing two separate things.

11:30:27 --> 11:30:36

: And as a female that has been in the service, I don't know, I'm sure you guys have heard the stats, 1 in 3 women have been ***** assaulted while they were in the service.

11:30:36 --> 11:30:44

: one in 3. That's not from lack of training. because they've all went through the training. They just the people that do this kind of thing.

11:30:44 --> 11:30:54

: Never look in the mirror. They do not believe it's them that's being talked about. So I don't think any amount of training is going to change any of that.

11:30:54 --> 11:30:55

: Um...

11:30:55 --> 11:31:05

: what else was I was just gonna bring that up. And I feel like there needs to be actually like dedicated.

11:31:05 --> 11:31:17

: process that happens when somebody does something, because I know a lot of women, and there's a couple men, actually, that have come to me because I haven't been very quiet about my situation.

11:31:17 --> 11:31:34

: And they've come to me because nothing was done. When I brought up my situation, I was told to let it go because it had been swept under the rug and it needed to stay there. And it was those exact words. And it was not a legionnaire that said that. It was a member of ODVA.

11:31:35 --> 11:31:45

: And so, I just feel like there needs to be a more dedicated process for us to be able to know what to do, because in... when my situation happened.

11:31:45 --> 11:31:54

: the level that that person was at, there was nobody over him. It was like your next step is like Nashville.

11:31:54 --> 11:32:01

: And so nobody below him would take on any responsibility for it.

11:32:01 --> 11:32:06

: So that's why I went outside the Legion and went to ODVA about it.

11:32:06 --> 11:32:12

: I'll tell you what that means. That is, Nashville is there.

11:32:12 --> 11:32:20

: There's nothing we can do about it within the Legion because it's the nature of our business.

11:32:20 --> 11:32:36

: That's what National has recommended. I've asked about that. I've talked to them on several occasions, and they say it's not just an Oklahoma problem, but that's another part of the past department commander said, oh, they're going to put the building down here by the ashes.

11:32:36 --> 11:32:45

: And they said, please speak. What they recommend, if you have a problem on that, is file civics against them, and let the legal people take care of it.

11:32:45 --> 11:32:50

: Not try to get the American Legion to come in and handle something that we're not set up to handle.

11:32:51 --> 11:32:53

: Augie?

11:32:53 --> 11:33:01

: My point of view is working all this is that everybody is looking at it in a slightly different way.

11:33:01 --> 11:33:08

: There's been a point here that two people in the same code for the IR department wouldn't be involved in that.

11:33:08 --> 11:33:23

: Uh, my point on this is there, there is a path set up, because each post has, you know, the ability to bring the trial members of their posts in order to, to rectify anything, including missed pieces, mouthpieces, and contact from the company.

11:33:23 --> 11:33:38

: The problem lying in here looks like saying, I'm going to click on the telephone since they're representatives here. If somebody came down from the telephone, found an issue. Or, you know, subject to becoming a part of the issue.

11:33:38 --> 11:33:53

: It wouldn't follow either one of the posts. That won't even be the district manager for the district since they're in the same area that we do it. But the person should start from their own post, go to their leadership. This is what happened in the affair. We're going to put a formal report up to the next level.

11:33:53 --> 11:34:08

: It gets handled by the district. District just informs the department what happened for their knowledge. Because in the trials from the post, it's even stated in constitutional bylaws that anybody can appeal to the department level to have it retried at that level.

11:34:08 --> 11:34:10

: to try to counteract your vote.

11:34:10 --> 11:34:20

: In this situation, especially if it being somebody from 6B comes all the way up to post 12 and has an incident like that.

11:34:20 --> 11:34:38

: It's no longer inside of a single district. It needs to be taken back to their original post to run up the information through the appropriate vice commanders into the commander's office at the department level to say this happened. We need it investigated. We cannot hold it at the post level.

11:34:38 --> 11:34:48

: If somebody can investigate, gather the information, then take it to the offending post and say, look, this is what we've discovered. Your choices are handle it by trial.

11:34:48 --> 11:34:56

: Or we have to step in and handle it as if it's been appealed because it's being requested from somebody.

11:34:56 --> 11:35:03

: To me, that's the path that's already there. And that's just me reading constitutional bylaws and really just trying to interact with everybody.

11:35:03 --> 11:35:14

: I don't know if that's completely correct. It's not. It's training down for it because all I can do is try to protect each and every individual in my area.

11:35:14 --> 11:35:20

: And the problem is a department level where they have to be in a different district.

11:35:20 --> 11:35:26

: Department has to be involved in some area of that because I can't force somebody from a different district.

11:35:26 --> 11:35:31

: to make sure they handle the issue.

11:35:31 --> 11:35:34

: Okay, I'm in. I believe.

11:35:35 --> 11:35:49

: At the department level, we don't have the authority to do that either. The difference in appeal and escalation, the appeal, when you use the word appeal, you're talking about somebody has made a decision at the post, and then they're asking us to review that decision.

11:35:49 --> 11:35:57

: The problem at the post, for example, if you've got a person in another post, if I had a person come down to my post and solve the problem.

11:35:58 --> 11:36:09

: we'd ask them to leave. We'd tell them to leave, okay? Well, the bottom line on it is we're allowing people to come into our calls with problems. Once again, the folks are going to have to step up with a little fortitude and say.

11:36:09 --> 11:36:13

: Leave. As the sergeant alarms, they have to pull them out.

11:36:13 --> 11:36:17

: Now, if it's a different situation, for example.

11:36:17 --> 11:36:31

: outside the polls, then like I say, there's not a whole lot we can do about it at the department level. And if it's a problem, somebody being insulted, somebody being harassed, somebody being abused, they can follow the civil suit on it.

11:36:31 --> 11:36:42

: They can't expect us to go in and solve all those problems like that, because the bottom line, I'm just going to come out of that in my opinion, the bottom line is, I want you to fix this, because I don't want to do it.

11:36:42 --> 11:37:00

: I want you to fix this because I don't want to take this problem and solve this problem, so I want you to take care of it for me. And unfortunately, right now, under the current rules, our hands are pretty well tied on that unless we change our constitution. I'm not necessarily advocating we do that, but that's about the only way we have to untie our hands right now.

11:37:00 --> 11:37:04

: When people come back and complain to me about somebody above the boat level.

11:37:04 --> 11:37:08

: Question I ask them, what is your penalty? What do you want to do?

11:37:09 --> 11:37:12

: So there's not a whole lot to cancel.

11:37:13 --> 11:37:15

: Good.

11:37:16 --> 11:37:19

: Uh, it works on, um...

11:37:19 --> 11:37:20

: Alright.

11:37:20 --> 11:37:24

: I'm assuming that you're not a member of Post 12.

11:37:26 --> 11:37:27

: So...

11:37:27 --> 11:37:30

: It's not a closed issue because it happened at a department function.

11:37:30 --> 11:37:34

: Or a district one. So it falls in our purview.

11:37:34 --> 11:37:39

: Just like if something happens at a convention or something happens anywhere else, it's a department function.

11:37:39 --> 11:37:42

: It is the farmer's problem and it's a serious problem.

11:37:42 --> 11:37:51

: I re I mean my suggestion would be set up a EEO committee for things like this because this is a department.

11:37:51 --> 11:37:52

: issue.

11:37:52 --> 11:37:55

: Because it happened in a department motion.

11:37:55 --> 11:38:02
: If somebody from a post gets drunk, that's just somebody at convention.
He's not going to go post get disciplined.

11:38:02 --> 11:38:04
: He's gonna be right where I'm going.

11:38:04 --> 11:38:10
: Same difference. This gives us another post because it's not that post
responsibility.

11:38:10 --> 11:38:15
: It's our responsibility because it's our responsibility that we'll be
in control of being charged with it.

11:38:16 --> 11:38:17
: Okay.

11:38:17 --> 11:38:19
: Hey, how you doing?

11:38:20 --> 11:38:21
: Thank you.

11:38:22 --> 11:38:24
: Can't hear you.

11:38:24 --> 11:38:26
: Yes, please do.

11:38:26 --> 11:38:28
: Yeah, we put the Eec together.

11:38:28 --> 11:38:34
: I mean, I don't think so. Really?

11:38:34 --> 11:38:39
: They didn't have the experience to handle these particular problems. I
just happened to be in that particular meeting.

11:38:39 --> 11:38:48
: And they're missing things when one person said this, but the other
person that this person is complaining of is the female.

11:38:48 --> 11:38:50
: You go, Sarah.

11:38:50 --> 11:38:53
: Through so many words, I felt threatened.

11:38:53 --> 11:38:57
: But the other side wasn't very much. I don't reconcile.

11:38:57 --> 11:39:02

: And so what I'm saying is we don't have the.

11:39:04 --> 11:39:05

: Oh.

11:39:05 --> 11:39:07

: I could, I suppose, though.

11:39:07 --> 11:39:09

: I have a refund.

11:39:09 --> 11:39:17

: You're like, it's a training at the festival. That'll be fine. You've got to have someone who stands.

11:39:17 --> 11:39:20

: This particular issue.

11:39:20 --> 11:39:25

: I suppose can't handle it because like you say in the constitutional bylaws, I will give you your time.

11:39:25 --> 11:39:29

: Can't either listen to it and try to fix it or.

11:39:29 --> 11:39:34

: You know, you suspended the person or whatever he's going to do. There has to be...

11:39:34 --> 11:39:38

: Some way to make so everyone feel comfy.

11:39:38 --> 11:39:42

: In every meeting, do you have an ASARS or not?

11:39:42 --> 11:39:46

: But that Sergeant at Arms is supposed to be responsible for making sure.

11:39:47 --> 11:39:53

: It hasn't happened. It hasn't come in, or whoever that this is not going to be.

11:39:54 --> 11:40:00

: And so I'm looking at it. So it's how you set yourself up, manage.

11:40:00 --> 11:40:09

: Well, to me, one of the things I notice every year that we can make it is we don't have -.

11:40:09 --> 11:40:17

: a vision of what it is that commander wants to see happen in their particular period of their construction.

11:40:17 --> 11:40:23

: There should be a list of this, this, this, this, and this. And we can write it down and make sure.

11:40:23 --> 11:40:27

: And this is one of the things that, in my opinion, is a...

11:40:28 --> 11:40:36

: But something that you want to get out there, you've got to be able to say to everyone, everyone in here is going to be treated differently.

11:40:36 --> 11:40:45

: We're going to do it outside. We're going to be helping each other. We're representing .

11:40:45 --> 11:40:48

: So we can't allow you.

11:40:48 --> 11:40:55

: to bring any kind of utility upon our thing. So we've got to be.

11:40:55 --> 11:40:56

: I guess.

11:40:56 --> 11:41:02

: United. But there should be someone other than James Abigail who has.

11:41:02 --> 11:41:05

: The answer being departed.

11:41:05 --> 11:41:09

: Okay, the end of the game is when it comes to the Bible.

11:41:09 --> 11:41:15

: But if we get the lower level, should we take down the means to fix them?

11:41:15 --> 11:41:18

: And I just don't think the experience is enough.

11:41:18 --> 11:41:32

: And so we've got to have some middle ground or something to have that. You're going to ask, what about this, what about this? And all you're doing is giving suggestions. What do you want to do? What is the problem? What do you notice?

11:41:32 --> 11:41:36

: And then you could help them do some of that, you know.

11:41:36 --> 11:41:45

: But what I hear, this is just too general, something like that, because there's all types of .

11:41:45 --> 11:41:46

: Which one is this?

11:41:47 --> 11:41:49

: You've got to have sunlight in your shoes.

11:41:49 --> 11:41:54

: be able to at least weed it out.

11:41:56 --> 11:42:04

: Two thoughts on this. I mean we do this all the time with our new program.

11:42:04 --> 11:42:12

: Requirements that you don't feel the teaming. I mean, we go through the training that, you know, you know that you're working with.

11:42:12 --> 11:42:29

: Boys State, Girl State, or the baseball, you have to go to the train, get in transport by yourself. You got to make sure there's two or three people. I mean, there's training you can go through so you're safe. I mean, we're used to doing this in our programs with you. So I think we're talking about something similar with our ladies.

11:42:29 --> 11:42:41

: And as you said, if you've been involved in a federal agency, which we have, you know if you get training about this, so if you've got scenarios where, uh, you know, the ladies need to have a clear.

11:42:41 --> 11:42:46

: system of reporting protection where they could feel safe.

11:42:46 --> 11:42:50

: So that's four of them, four of them, if you don't mind.

11:42:50 --> 11:42:58

: Just to be clear, it's not always ***** harassment. So being alone with them had nothing to do with this happened so much.

11:42:59 --> 11:43:04

: Mike. Mike, Kurt Media Communications. I think we're focusing on one item.

11:43:04 --> 11:43:09

: As someone with extensive experience, we're talking female on female.

11:43:09 --> 11:43:12

: Mail on mail.

11:43:12 --> 11:43:15

: female on male and male on female.

11:43:15 --> 11:43:17

: It's not just...

11:43:17 --> 11:43:19
: Male on female.

11:43:19 --> 11:43:25
: It is the whole spectrum. To discount the whole spectrum is a disservice to every other member.

11:43:25 --> 11:43:27
: in the American Legion.

11:43:27 --> 11:43:29
: You have to cover all of them.

11:43:29 --> 11:43:34
: And if you think it doesn't happen, read up, you're misinformed.

11:43:35 --> 11:43:38
: You also must account for false allegations.

11:43:40 --> 11:43:42
: Whether it's...

11:43:42 --> 11:43:48
: Male on male, female on female, male on female, or female on male.

11:43:48 --> 11:43:53
: Those false allegations, in my personal experience, have happened and do happen.

11:43:54 --> 11:44:00
: As a commander in the military, I have dealt with all of those scenarios.

11:44:00 --> 11:44:04
: To include false allegations from each one of those genders.

11:44:05 --> 11:44:09
: So, you also must include that in your consideration.

11:44:11 --> 11:44:14
: The male ***** assault.

11:44:14 --> 11:44:16
: MSTs.

11:44:16 --> 11:44:19
: Are not as prevalent as females, that is true.

11:44:19 --> 11:44:23
: because of societal norms.

11:44:23 --> 11:44:27
: But you must consider that when you're going to do this.

11:44:27 --> 11:44:34

: So if we're going to address this topic, I do recommend that we do not have gender bias.

11:44:35 --> 11:44:38

: That you open your mind to those considerations.

11:44:38 --> 11:44:41

: It's not just MSTs.

11:44:41 --> 11:44:43

: It's also physical assault.

11:44:44 --> 11:44:47

: Verbal. It's a professionalism.

11:44:47 --> 11:44:52

: the training that's recommended, that I required of all of my subordinate commanders.

11:44:52 --> 11:44:58

: was the commanders, and they had to go through that type of training to cover all of those aspects.

11:44:59 --> 11:45:03

: And if they didn't get it, they didn't last long under my command.

11:45:05 --> 11:45:10

: So I would highly recommend and put out there that you consider all of those.

11:45:11 --> 11:45:13

: Not just the one.

11:45:14 --> 11:45:20

: We've gone around the room, we've all acknowledged the problem.

11:45:20 --> 11:45:23

: For us to have a constitution.

11:45:23 --> 11:45:29

: It covers every scenario. We need a much bigger building to hold the balloon.

11:45:29 --> 11:45:44

: you know, document that that would be. I was trying to start talking about committee was a good idea, and that committee could serve 2 purposes. Number one, internally, they could be the investigating authority, so that you don't have people making science.

11:45:44 --> 11:45:45

: In a post.

11:45:45 --> 11:45:49

: and and and desecrate really.

11:45:49 --> 11:46:01

: That's one thing. But that committee can also formalize a policy and procedure. I mean, we've got constituents in the United States that are going to cover everything.

11:46:01 --> 11:46:06

: We got policies and procedures that do cover everything.

11:46:06 --> 11:46:08

: So we come up with one.

11:46:08 --> 11:46:14

: Step one, step two, step three. And then if an individual truly is -.

11:46:15 --> 11:46:17

: Sorry.

11:46:17 --> 11:46:22

: You know, once we generated 19, then they own a sensor model.

11:46:23 --> 11:46:25

: And who to talk to.

11:46:27 --> 11:46:39

: Perfect, just to clarify. I'll give you an example of something we handle when we have to get out, because I don't know what you're talking about. I wasn't trying to limit it to one scenario.

11:46:39 --> 11:46:44

: No, Mike, for media, my comment was for everybody in general.

11:46:44 --> 11:46:48

: Not against you personally, so everybody in general. Let's just get an example of that.

11:46:48 --> 11:46:51

: Yeah, sure. Cool.

11:46:51 --> 11:46:56

: All right, well, my comment is that we should be able to handle this stuff at the lowest level.

11:46:56 --> 11:47:12

: We're, we're, we're elevating stuff all the time. Things should be able to be handled with the most love. The only way that you can do that is have somebody, somebody's had freedom from the stuff so that you can handle it the lowest level and get it resolved.

11:47:12 --> 11:47:14

: We don't want it.

11:47:14 --> 11:47:21
: Simon Marquez, F5CA: You know, because I I heard that this is not an American Legion problem. It's because it's an individual problem. You made.

11:47:21 --> 11:47:24
: It is an American problem.

11:47:24 --> 11:47:30
: If you've got a post problem, that's typically health is having an issue, but they need to be able to figure out.

11:47:30 --> 11:47:35
: Tell me from your cell phone.

11:47:35 --> 11:47:41
: where people would have seen that because you're going to have a problem if somebody does.

11:47:41 --> 11:47:46
: Something wrong. And this person may get confronted.

11:47:46 --> 11:47:53
: They'll get kicked out of the water reserve. Now you've got a different type of problem. So I would just say.

11:47:53 --> 11:47:56
: You know, maybe we don't work in-house.

11:47:56 --> 11:48:01
: You don't want this to be a American Legion. If you shouldn't make it a American Legion.

11:48:01 --> 11:48:05
: conversation that says they're probably by the street.

11:48:05 --> 11:48:10
: And if somebody's not acting accordingly, you have to look.

11:48:10 --> 11:48:12
: Oh, I read that. It's going to be done.

11:48:13 --> 11:48:15
: That'll work for you.

11:48:19 --> 11:48:22
: And maybe a final comment.

11:48:23 --> 11:48:27
: 30 minute video training would be a good place to start.

11:48:27 --> 11:48:29
: Right.

11:48:30 --> 11:48:32

: Okay.

11:48:32 --> 11:48:52

: We've all been talking about this already, but I think we know this, but if something happens and we get sued, the first thing to be asked, whether it's the unit level or the state level or the national level, if you have a policy, you have a policy.

11:48:52 --> 11:49:00

: And secondly, did you follow the policy? If you didn't follow the policy, here's why. Those are the most fundamental things in the journey you've got to have right.

11:49:00 --> 11:49:04

: You'll see it very clear. I don't see it very often.

11:49:04 --> 11:49:08

: What are the odds of learning? I don't know.

11:49:08 --> 11:49:14

: Obviously it is, but if you give them respect and let them sleep, there's a problem.

11:49:14 --> 11:49:18

: And everybody knows it. That was the part which you hadn't decided to do.

11:49:18 --> 11:49:23

: You're able to do quotes, quotes and quotes from everybody. They're buying.

11:49:23 --> 11:49:28

: So I didn't see the policy fixing everything.

11:49:30 --> 11:49:31

: Okay.

11:49:32 --> 11:49:34

: I love you.

11:49:35 --> 11:49:55

: The policy and procedures is, in my opinion, the way to go. The Constitution has no need to deal with these individual efforts. Our Constitution needs to be matter of fact, and we need to have SOPs or policies that address these individual issues.

11:49:55 --> 11:50:13

: I just... I think we're getting wrapped around the axle here, not solving anything. The Constitution bylaws is ambiguous as ***** The paragraph that he read a while ago out of it doesn't mean a cotton-picking thing when you go to Robert's Rules of Orders.

11:50:13 --> 11:50:15

: Those definitions are so...

11:50:15 --> 11:50:24

: ambiguous that you can't put a thumb on anything. It's good verbiage, it looks good, it sounds right, but it ain't worth a **** as far as.

11:50:24 --> 11:50:27

: holding somebody accountable.

11:50:27 --> 11:50:30

: Our constitution and bylaws is a soup sandwich.

11:50:30 --> 11:50:38

: Okay? But the procedures addressing individual efforts like that is a way that we can make corrections.

11:50:41 --> 11:50:48

: I yield back. So I'm just going to say right now, we've been going for right after about.

11:50:48 --> 11:50:55

: I think we need to stop and take a break. There's a couple of other things that I have added to the list.

11:50:56 --> 11:51:05

: Ah, almost at pizza donuts, he doesn't want to take the phone. So let's take a, we've got a nine minute break.

11:51:06 --> 11:51:10

: Well, I mean, I'm very important.

11:51:10 --> 11:51:17

: As long as we want it. To a bucket. I thought we had a bucket.

11:51:17 --> 11:51:19

: 2 weeks.

11:51:19 --> 11:51:22

: Everybody.

11:51:23 --> 11:51:25

: Oh, okay.

11:51:25 --> 11:51:28

: Sorry, open arms. Hey, it's Luke.

11:51:28 --> 11:51:29

: Sure.

11:51:29 --> 11:51:46

: Okay, back to nine minutes. I'm going to put my phone back. But it was just .

11:51:46 --> 11:51:56

: I got to take them home.

11:51:56 --> 11:52:11

: You're going to be training .

11:52:11 --> 11:52:32

: Well, no talent really.

11:52:32 --> 11:52:49

: That's what we have.

11:53:04 --> 11:53:30

: I don't care. This was the last time.

11:53:30 --> 11:53:46

: I'm sorry.

11:54:01 --> 11:54:11

: There needs to be a break.

11:54:12 --> 11:54:28

: I don't know.

11:54:28 --> 11:54:37

: I don't know.

11:54:37 --> 11:55:07

: Exactly.

11:55:07 --> 11:55:32

: Do you get one?

11:55:32 --> 11:55:36

: Okay, are you good? All right. Enjoy it. Okay.

11:55:36 --> 11:55:53

: I'm getting ready to send home one.

11:55:54 --> 11:56:10

: We're supposed to leave the money available, huh? No, no, no, no. This is what I take.

11:56:10 --> 11:56:19

: This is left over at the morning meeting. I've been using their coffee. Okay.

11:56:19 --> 11:56:22

: Okay.

11:56:22 --> 11:56:24

: I think that's important, thank you.

11:56:24 --> 11:56:41

: Oh, you were standing right in front of us. Yeah. OK. You don't want to accidentally elbow you in the belly or anything. Exactly. I don't embarrass you.

11:56:41 --> 11:56:57

: No, I'm the one that made the laugh before.

11:56:57 --> 11:57:16

: My favorite coffee was .

11:57:16 --> 11:57:27

: We're at the PPC office.

11:57:27 --> 11:57:29

: Whatever it is, a white cat?

11:57:29 --> 11:57:31

: Or from there.

11:57:32 --> 11:57:51

: Thank you, Dr. Benjamin. *****

11:57:51 --> 11:58:09

: I'm not really glad for you. It was a long time.

11:58:10 --> 11:58:29

: Yeah, I'm not putting that many on the line. No, neither. I do have checks out about the other people. I gave them a form to use.

11:58:29 --> 11:58:39

: And she's also going to take that ignore it.

11:58:39 --> 11:58:41

: Okay, waterfall.

11:58:41 --> 11:58:48

: I can pump it up, and it just goes like this. Bobby's going to put out.

11:58:48 --> 11:59:02

: That you're always an open door for anybody within .

11:59:02 --> 11:59:06

: I think that would eliminate a whole lot of this *****

11:59:06 --> 11:59:15

: in the right hand.

11:59:15 --> 11:59:26

: 05.14.25 Where are you?

11:59:26 --> 11:59:41

: And are you looking for anyone? I didn't do it. That would be healthy to have that. Very sensitive.

11:59:41 --> 11:59:57

: I don't care.

11:59:57 --> 12:00:26

: But I've been covered so much.

12:00:26 --> 12:00:42

: I'm sorry.

12:00:42 --> 12:00:59

: Yeah.

12:00:59 --> 12:01:23

: Oh, yeah.

12:01:23 --> 12:01:39

: And it's right, yeah.

12:01:39 --> 12:01:55

: I said, you're right, you guys.

12:01:55 --> 12:02:23

: I don't know.

12:02:23 --> 12:02:39

: That would be in the top of your bottom.

12:02:39 --> 12:02:49

: You need a bell. You know.

12:02:50 --> 12:02:52

: My mom's favorite.

12:02:52 --> 12:02:55

: Pardon at arms. Okay. Salute.

12:02:55 --> 12:02:57

: Good.

12:02:57 --> 12:03:00

: I see that.

12:03:08 --> 12:03:13

: So on my little agenda that I handed out, I have put additional topics.

12:03:14 --> 12:03:22

: Um, so I'm gonna ask Donna Nargis, our auxiliary president, if she has any comments or if she'd like to say anything.

12:03:23 --> 12:03:38

: Congratulations on 100% last year. And girl, patient, woo.

12:03:38 --> 12:03:44

: Yeah, what's going on with girls day today, you guys didn't know.
President. President.

12:03:50 --> 12:03:51
: This doesn't work here.

12:03:51 --> 12:04:01
: Simon Marquez, F5CA: So the next thing I will say is.

12:04:01 --> 12:04:07
: I thought I had my committee signed out, and after a couple of the...

12:04:08 --> 12:04:15
: Community meetings, convention, I had some individuals come up and say,
no thank you, not good.

12:04:15 --> 12:04:22
: So I'm trying to fulfill those last couple of communities. And as soon
as I do that, I will send it out after I send it out.

12:04:22 --> 12:04:28
: to the DEC members for review and potential vote after that fantastic
question.

12:04:41 --> 12:04:47
: And so we will hit our goal there. I would like to see us hit 12,000.

12:04:47 --> 12:04:53
: That's going to be sort of my personal goal is 12,000.

12:04:53 --> 12:04:59
: And the last I looked, we were at 4,287.

12:04:59 --> 12:05:08
: So I can say we're 30% there, 33% there, which is a good start, but
we're behind where we were last year.

12:05:08 --> 12:05:16
: So I'm going to leave it up to my vices and Vice West to start getting
their districts up about memberships and everything.

12:05:16 --> 12:05:21
: We're getting ready to start sending out those updates three times a
week.

12:05:21 --> 12:05:33
: We'll get her access as soon as they let us have that. But in the
meantime I'm going to start sending it all to her and let her send it
out. I mentioned earlier a little friendly competition.

12:05:33 --> 12:05:37
: I think we've sort of divided them up.

12:05:37 --> 12:05:38

: Um...

12:05:38 --> 12:05:43

: by post size, and try to make it sort of equal for the.

12:05:43 --> 12:05:53

: the 4 of us here each have large, medium, small, and extra small folks. And so we've got that split up throughout the State.

12:05:53 --> 12:06:00

: we will be traveling, or I know I will be traveling throughout the state, and it goes into the vice.

12:06:00 --> 12:06:13

: That again goes back to communication. They don't know what they don't know. So if we're not telling them or getting that information passed out to them, they're not going to know what's happening. So I do plan on doing that.

12:06:13 --> 12:06:15

: Um...

12:06:16 --> 12:06:24

: Patricia is gonna be the fundraising committee chair based on our constitution bylaws.

12:06:24 --> 12:06:41

: But I have asked Emil to be the vice chair, because I know that she will be busy, and he worked on that committee last year, and so I think he would be an asset for Trisha with the fundraising. So I'm going to ask him to speak just a little bit about our current fundraiser.

12:06:42 --> 12:06:46

: Okay, we all know about the tickets that we have.

12:06:46 --> 12:06:51

: So 7,500 is ticket pay. Figure that that's \$75,000 okay.

12:06:52 --> 12:07:05

: The most we're going to give out is \$10,000 for all the drawings. That would be \$65,000 to the department. Is that awesome or what? No, I think that's great to know. When they're supposed to get the \$5,000 to themselves.

12:07:05 --> 12:07:16

: If they sell them, whatever you do, make sure, please, please, please, will you fill this out? If you don't sell the tickets, get them back to us, please.

12:07:22 --> 12:07:41

: Okay? Make sure you get that done. Mid-winter conference. Deadline. Mid-winter conference. The people out here don't know that unless you tell them. Please, let them know. We can make... we got an opportunity to

make some good money on this. If we do good on this one out here, guess what? Next year, maybe the amount will go up.

12:07:41 --> 12:07:43
: That you can wait on.

12:07:43 --> 12:08:00
: People love winning money. That's why we decided to go this route and got away with the gun. So I'm really excited about it. Even up there in Old Town in Sarah, Oklahoma, the other day I was sitting in front of the store, paid \$100 for the pub, \$100 for the apartment.

12:08:00 --> 12:08:12
: Just a little time. So, you know, and if you take it and you might take these checklists with you, I've got a form over here that you want your post to sign for.

12:08:12 --> 12:08:22
: So you got benefit of it. Get with me. I've got supporters with me. So you can do that. Make every liability responsible for what you give them. Get back to you.

12:08:22 --> 12:08:39
: There is not a lot on your view as a part of the district. I know district planners, I pick them up, I take them out to my post, then they sign up for me. But I try to help them out because I know they're not a department. These tickets are not a department. If you want to get here and get a hold of me.

12:08:39 --> 12:08:52
: Or Chris Sherborn. Or Chris Sherborn. Or Chris Sherborn, yes. OK. So please, let's get these tickets out. Let's get them sold. Let's make some money for this department so we can do better next year. Thank you.

12:08:53 --> 12:09:10
: Good question. Yeah. So I know that is a drawing that needs to have this winter. Do we have a date this winter? So whenever we're selling tickets, they're like, well, the drawing is the beginning of January. I'm waiting on the dingo. I'm wondering.

12:09:10 --> 12:09:14
: CEC did not decide that it's resistant.

12:09:16 --> 12:09:17
: Oh.

12:09:17 --> 12:09:18
: I mean...

12:09:19 --> 12:09:20
: Okay.

12:09:20 --> 12:09:26
: Kerrigan by standard use. So on my side of the state.

12:09:41 --> 12:09:50

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: My big push was to get the confidentiality and the other paperwork that Stark needs.

12:09:50 --> 12:09:52

: Oh.

12:09:52 --> 12:10:10

: Confidentiality, the only ones that have to have that is the first vice and the DEC, or the first vice and the district commander, anyone that can sit in on the DEC, but I also said that if they share their email address, or if they communicate with their entire team.

12:10:10 --> 12:10:22

: with stuff at their district level investigation stuff like that. They would behoove them to use it for everyone that's gonna have access to their kind of level.

12:10:24 --> 12:10:25

: Um...

12:10:25 --> 12:10:34

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: I got from Stark the current distribution for the department.

12:10:34 --> 12:10:39

: And over this last week, I have sent an email to every.

12:10:39 --> 12:10:52

: founder and adjacent email on my side of the stage, asking for confirmation that that's the email that they wanted to use, asking if they have a post email that they would rather use.

12:10:52 --> 12:10:55

: I think I have 5.

12:10:55 --> 12:11:06

: Commander Adjutant don't have an email at all, and so they, them, I texted John Waxman, I think that at least three of those five come from districts.

12:11:06 --> 12:11:18

: None of the ones I texted responded, so next I'll call them. So, I put them all in a file, and next I'm gonna go through, because a lot of them sent me back responses. So, I'll go through, check those.

12:11:18 --> 12:11:22

: And then the the start of the.

12:11:22 --> 12:11:41

: my side is updated. I think I sent you a copy of what I'm sending out. It's not in the middle. I've tried to include in everything. I send out at least one copy to Lane, so when he gets, um, new contacts on who his

district standards are, which he doesn't have the most access to most of them.

12:11:41 --> 12:11:59

: I can get those. I did learn through last night that I've done a very poor job of informing my CEC leadership. I do a great job, I think, of communicating with my district commanders. I do a poor job of communicating with my DVC on my side of the day, so.

12:11:59 --> 12:12:09

: I'm going to create a communication line with them and do better on that part from my side of the state.

12:12:09 --> 12:12:16

: And then I go back to school tomorrow, so I'm always a little more limited.

12:12:17 --> 12:12:24

: On that day off, I'm with y'all. But Patricia and I will be getting the membership contest going.

12:12:24 --> 12:12:37

: Um, for us, the four of us, we're not taking away from district commanders. You guys have your 100%. We split up and just put everybody a big pot, so you guys have your exact district.

12:12:37 --> 12:12:52

: For us, so that we don't compete at East and West, I have Coach on the East and the West. We'll be contacting and encouraging. So you guys have your individual, and then we have.

12:12:52 --> 12:13:03

: all different ones. I like that. I like that. I love that idea.

12:13:03 --> 12:13:20

: We're excited. And we're going to highlight them and be sending pictures to Michael Kerr, baseball cards, asking for pictures of their posts, highlighting different posts throughout the year. So that's our goal. It's going to take a lot of effort for my class.

12:13:20 --> 12:13:25

: We're good. I don't have a hard time. That's my report.

12:13:25 --> 12:13:26

: All right.

12:13:26 --> 12:13:36

: I've heard more of this. I'm Chris Mathis, Senior Rescue Commander.

12:13:36 --> 12:13:41

: reflect exactly what our senior vice commuter said.

12:13:41 --> 12:13:58

: We're going to have fun. Membership is going to be fun this year. We're going to have a good time with it. It's not just going to be about getting the number, getting the number, getting the number. It's going to be a little more competitive than that, which will be fun.

12:13:58 --> 12:14:03

: Um, rewards, um, and with our...

12:14:03 --> 12:14:10

: fundraising committee. We're gonna have a good one, and I'm looking for ideas. Pop them my way. We'll see what we can do.

12:14:10 --> 12:14:23

: I'm, I'm gonna be available. Let me know what you got. Now that doesn't mean everything will get done, but we will see what we can do and see what is viable as we can improve this organization moving forward.

12:14:23 --> 12:14:25

: Oh my god.

12:14:25 --> 12:14:28

: So, um, a couple of just...

12:14:28 --> 12:14:33

: comment, I would say. There are 3 issues that have been brought.

12:14:45 --> 12:14:56

: We may end up having an investigative committee for one of them. One of the items, I believe, we have talked to the district.

12:15:03 --> 12:15:10

: They know what they're looking at. They know what they should be seeing. We're going to wait on that one to see.

12:15:10 --> 12:15:12

: Once I report, we get that.

12:15:42 --> 12:15:44

: What we call that.

12:15:44 --> 12:15:49

: Talking to this meeting with the results of that.

12:15:51 --> 12:16:04

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: I will say that National Legion College had 3 applicants this year. There was a committee. I was the chair of that committee. There were 5 individuals on that, and we each had to.

12:16:04 --> 12:16:14

: rate and rank our advocates. City of And then, for example, it's a national. We do not know for sure how they're going to.

12:16:14 --> 12:16:23

: If they're going to take any more of these ransom, or if they're going to say, well, we don't agree, and we're going to take . Not yet.

12:16:23 --> 12:16:26

: Which is now only one video.

12:16:26 --> 12:16:30

: Okay, who's that? Oh, gosh.

12:16:31 --> 12:16:35

: No, I said electronic maps.

12:16:36 --> 12:16:43

: But we did get that submitted in line, so hopefully we'll have at least one negative going.

12:16:48 --> 12:16:49

: Wonderful.

12:16:50 --> 12:16:57

: Are you ready for a media communications report? Yes. All right. Okay, Media Communications.

12:16:57 --> 12:17:03

: As promised, the DEC-1, if you will go to the department website, under events.

12:17:03 --> 12:17:07

: There are two new tabs. One is for district meetings.

12:17:18 --> 12:17:27

: As Zoom links become available, we get closer, we'll probably push the Zoom links out two days before the meeting.

12:17:35 --> 12:17:39

: That will be put on there as well by the 9th.

12:17:39 --> 12:17:48

: But all department leadership meetings will be posted on the website. You can go there now on your phones and find that. The district meetings.

12:17:56 --> 12:18:00

: As I receive them, they will be posted there.

12:18:06 --> 12:18:13

: That is for the Vice Commander East and Vice Commander West to post photographs of their East and West posts.

12:18:18 --> 12:18:21

: The calendar that is listed.

12:18:21 --> 12:18:24

: is controlled solely by Stark.

12:18:25 --> 12:18:29

: If it is not on his calendar at the office, I can't change it.

12:18:29 --> 12:18:35

: But under current events, or upcoming events, anything else I can change.

12:18:50 --> 12:18:56

: That is updated as often as they want. If you go on the first page, you will see that as well.

12:19:00 --> 12:19:05

: A Zephy account has been set up on the department website.

12:19:16 --> 12:19:20

: We have 200 tickets already in the queue.

12:19:20 --> 12:19:25

: and 200 hard copy tickets set aside. That way, if you buy it online.

12:19:25 --> 12:19:37

: we will hand JAM an actual ticket for you to put in the hopper. That way, there is no difference between the hard copies that are sold in person by post, or what's on Zephy.

12:19:37 --> 12:19:46

: If you buy it on Zephy and you wish your post to receive half of that ticket, you must specify a post number.

12:20:03 --> 12:20:05

: That should be up by next week.

12:20:07 --> 12:20:13

: Membership numbers have already been updated. If you look on there, I updated it last night.

12:20:23 --> 12:20:30

: If I do not receive it, it is not posted. If I receive it, it's normally posted within 24 hours.

12:20:31 --> 12:20:33

: Any questions?

12:20:33 --> 12:20:35

: Thank you for your time.

12:20:39 --> 12:20:42

: Okay. At this time.

12:20:43 --> 12:20:44

: Oh.

12:20:48 --> 12:20:52

: National has got a pin.

12:20:53 --> 12:20:59

: August drop-dead date for all accredited VSOs.

12:20:59 --> 12:21:06

: Every five years, National goes through the program and requires a reboot.

12:21:06 --> 12:21:09

: That is coming up on the 10th.

12:21:09 --> 12:21:16

: Stark, let me know if I get in your, your bailiwick here. Uh, but the 10th.

12:21:16 --> 12:21:26

: nationally, all states are going to be revisited with their accredited BSOs. We have to provide a.

12:21:33 --> 12:21:35

: Uh...

12:21:35 --> 12:21:43

: the threat or the possibility is being removed from the VSO.

12:21:43 --> 12:21:50

: Uh, access list at national. Okay, it's not something we do, uh, within the state.

12:21:50 --> 12:21:58

: We've worked and got it set, but now we have to send it to National, and they have to receive it by the 10th.

12:21:59 --> 12:22:05

: So that's an issue up and coming, and it's only for ones with.

12:22:05 --> 12:22:08

: accreditation numbers through.

12:22:08 --> 12:22:16

: Office of General Counsel. So Office of General Counsel, for those of you that don't know, is Big VA Lawyers.

12:22:16 --> 12:22:18

: they...

12:22:18 --> 12:22:34

: The headquarters for the American Legion is the ones that's pushed this out in accordance with OGC. So everybody that has to comply if they haven't by the 10th is a drop dead date at National.

12:22:34 --> 12:22:38

: They're subject to be removed from VSO.

12:22:38 --> 12:22:49

: Currently, as we speak, we have 22 who are accredited, who are no longer functioning in a VSO capacity.

12:22:49 --> 12:22:59

: Stark, I think you and I are gonna have to work hand-in-hand here, uh, pretty close, because there's issues coming down the pike on this.

12:23:00 --> 12:23:05

: Uh, it's not optional. They're telling us it will be done by the 10th.

12:23:06 --> 12:23:12

: I requested to come in here specifically to talk to all the district commanders.

12:23:12 --> 12:23:17

: If you are not the point of contact for your VSOs.

12:23:17 --> 12:23:25

: I need to know who is going to be. The VSOs are unique in that we all have VA.gov email.

12:23:25 --> 12:23:35

: The reason we have va.gov email is we handle sensitive VA information that if you're not a VSO, you don't have access to it.

12:23:36 --> 12:23:44

: So it's kind of putting the district commanders at a disadvantage if they don't have VA.gov email, but...

12:23:44 --> 12:23:59

: With the sensitivity of the stuff that we're dealing with, it has to be on that website. It's not to slight anybody. Anytime anybody has any questions about what's happening with the VSOs, please don't hesitate to call me. I've got cards.

12:23:59 --> 12:24:03

: Everybody's welcome to call me, bug the wife.

12:24:03 --> 12:24:05

: But there's DSO stuff that's...

12:24:05 --> 12:24:09

: To protect the veterans and the VA.

12:24:09 --> 12:24:19

: We are representatives of the VAs, not employed by, but we have all the rights of a VA employee. So we have to protect the VA on that.

12:24:22 --> 12:24:25

: Pelli per what?

12:24:25 --> 12:24:37

: Oh, it's a \$10,000 fine for violation of this. We have PII, which is personal identifiable information, and we have health information.

12:24:37 --> 12:24:45

: that each one of us are trained and have to do annual recertification on in order to maintain this status.

12:24:45 --> 12:24:49

: It's no joke, and the federal government don't play.

12:24:49 --> 12:24:53

: I'll be glad to entertain any questions anybody's got about any of it.

12:24:55 --> 12:24:59

: Thank you. Yes, ma'am.

12:25:00 --> 12:25:02

: Um...

12:25:02 --> 12:25:09

: Tell me if it's true or not from your perspective, I already know the answer. If you have an OGCR number, but you are not...

12:25:09 --> 12:25:22

: up to date with your training, verification, and VIN card, you are not an actual practicing VSO legally, correct? That is according to doctrine, that's 100% correct.

12:25:22 --> 12:25:28

: I do not have the ability to remove anybody that's on the list.

12:25:28 --> 12:25:43

: That's done by OGC. I do recommend that if they had not completed their current training, they'd be removed from the list. And so they could incur for every infraction, which could be multiple with one person.

12:25:43 --> 12:25:50

: A \$10,000 fine for infraction if they're practicing with PII much less HIPAA.

12:25:50 --> 12:26:01

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: So district commanders know this. Simon Marquez, F5CA: It's coming for the people who think they have an Odcr number, because we've always done it that way that they can legally practice. They cannot.

12:26:01 --> 12:26:16

: As of four years ago, whenever they went to this new Bergman Moore is our official trainers, not locally, not me training somebody, but Bergman and Moore is the national training team.

12:26:16 --> 12:26:19

: That's the standard that must be met.

12:26:19 --> 12:26:34

: Not by your VSO here in the state, not by any other state's VSOs. There is a national training team that if you're not compliant with, you are not compliant with the OGC requirements.

12:26:34 --> 12:26:37

: Not by rules, that's coming from national.

12:26:41 --> 12:26:46

: Simon Marquez, F5CA: as we talked about earlier today, Dale, this meeting, and Dale Lynn.

12:26:46 --> 12:26:49

: To the white hat.

12:26:49 --> 12:26:53

: And currently, until we do the resolution.

12:26:53 --> 12:26:56

: Jackie is not a white cat.

12:26:56 --> 12:26:59

: And Jackie and I have had some conversations recently.

12:26:59 --> 12:27:01

: um...

12:27:01 --> 12:27:06

: all records of VSO training and everything else should be.

12:27:06 --> 12:27:08

: So...

12:27:08 --> 12:27:10

: Let's start.

12:27:11 --> 12:27:13

: Correct.

12:27:13 --> 12:27:23

: Because it's my understanding Rick was not holding that information, because recently, Jackie sent some information out, and none of my stuff was updated, and I had a conversation with him.

12:27:23 --> 12:27:26

: And he said this stuff was not being...

12:27:26 --> 12:27:36

: The records are not being kept there. So I want to make sure that in your new position that you realize that he has no authority other than you've been committed to.

12:27:40 --> 12:27:49

: I've worked for Jack and for Sadie. Actually, her name is the automator of the thing, everything. She's the one that loved it.

12:27:50 --> 12:27:51

: And, uh...

12:27:52 --> 12:28:02

: That's as grateful as I am for the amount of time he's amazing, because otherwise I would be spending thousands of dollars on him.

12:28:02 --> 12:28:05

: But you're right. Yeah.

12:28:05 --> 12:28:08

: So, just a minute, yeah.

12:28:08 --> 12:28:24

: Yes, sir. I had several veterans that are working as VSOs. They're trying to get their number, I guess, to get their PIV card to do the work. And it's been months since they've been able, they've done all of that.

12:28:24 --> 12:28:33

: I guess you probably get it. Can you give me a name? I can give you two minutes. I can pull them up right now and tell you the staff.

12:28:33 --> 12:28:41

: It doesn't matter. We can do it now.

12:28:42 --> 12:28:47

: So, I've got a database right now of 151.

12:28:47 --> 12:28:50

: Projected VSOs.

12:28:50 --> 12:29:07

: Utopia is we'll have over 300. You say, what the **** did each post? Utopia will have two VSOs because one will go on vacation, one will have family emergency, but the post will be covered by Utopia.

12:29:07 --> 12:29:19

: those VSOs, okay? Within the districts, I don't want to break it down by district right now, but if we have 16 different district commanders.

12:29:20 --> 12:29:38

: And there are alternates. That's 32 people that the hierarchy of the VSOs needs to deal with. Right now, we have 151 people that we're trying to track their records on. Stark, I've got an updated list for you as of last night.

12:29:39 --> 12:29:57

: So of the 151, there's people at different levels of training. There's currently 98 with OGC numbers. The problem with those 98 that have OGC

numbers is 24 of them were turned in in December as deceased or moved out of state.

12:29:57 --> 12:30:12

: Okay, so in reality, I've only got 75 or we only have 75 accredited PSOs. From that 75 accredited, we've only got 30 that have met the current standards.

12:30:12 --> 12:30:17

: Oh my god, are we gonna lose 40? Not my call. National will make that call.

12:30:17 --> 12:30:19

: So that's where we're at.

12:30:22 --> 12:30:27

: Okay. Alright, let's see.

12:30:28 --> 12:30:30

: Thank you very much.

12:30:31 --> 12:30:33

: Good.

12:30:33 --> 12:30:39

: Um, I'm going to set the next leadership meeting for 15th of September.

12:30:41 --> 12:30:45

: Does 10 o'clock work for everybody?

12:30:45 --> 12:30:46

: Look at my phone.

12:30:54 --> 12:30:59

: What's the date again? September 15.

12:30:59 --> 12:31:03

: I'm trying to think what's going on exactly.

12:31:03 --> 12:31:13

: I didn't have anything from a national perspective at that time. I have one question.

12:31:13 --> 12:31:18

: Have we published a master comma list yet for this year?

12:31:18 --> 12:31:20

: No, we're working. We're working. Okay.

12:31:20 --> 12:31:23

: The other thing is...

12:31:23 --> 12:31:30

: I want to commend our commander for resuming these informative meetings.

12:31:30 --> 12:31:40

: We're going on the downside of two years of very poor communication. And I think we've covered a lot of territory today.

12:31:40 --> 12:31:58

: I cannot imagine if each one of these topics was brought to a DEC meeting. We'd be in DEC meetings for the next 2 days. We covered so much territory, and this is how it's done. Talking across the table, resolving issues.

12:31:59 --> 12:32:02

: Congratulations to you. Thank you.

12:32:02 --> 12:32:04

: Okay.

12:32:04 --> 12:32:23

: Lots of coffee, thank you. Yeah, before I forget, it's one of the, they did some interactions with some of these, uh, travelers, uh, and, uh, obviously, if you ever have a chance to go out and just be at, uh, at a fair in your community, or somewhere with friends, or something's going on, I, I'm hearing some district managers.

12:32:23 --> 12:32:29

: People don't stand to go out and do that.

12:32:29 --> 12:32:34

: I don't want to, you know, I know sometimes you feel like you're beating a dead horse when you talk about leadership.

12:32:34 --> 12:32:46

: So we're talking about bringing in people to our our mission. All the great things we do. So we're actually trying to get numbers. We're trying to reinforce the great programs we have, whether we're talking about.

12:32:46 --> 12:33:02

: Uh, baseball, or voice thing, or helping the poor, or the post activity. There's so many great things happening. So we're talking about getting more members, we're talking about supporting our, our, our . So anyway, I've got a bunch of these that didn't buy these, they've got a handful of .

12:33:04 --> 12:33:12

: Okay, so, yeah. Uh, Media Communications. To follow up on that, if you go on our website under membership.

12:33:12 --> 12:33:23

: Scroll to the bottom. There is a plethora of information that you could print out and take to your post, your districts, show them where it is. There's toolkits on membership.

12:33:23 --> 12:33:27

: So everything you could possibly want under membership.

12:33:27 --> 12:33:31

: to bring to your post and your individual members is under the Membership tab.

12:33:34 --> 12:33:39

: So I think we will have our next meeting 15th of September, 10 o'clock.

12:33:39 --> 12:33:42

: Location will be determined.

12:33:42 --> 12:33:48

: What I'm going to try to do is stay sort of in the metro area.

12:33:48 --> 12:33:51

: But I want to go different.

12:33:51 --> 12:33:56

: post or maybe not have it in one one location.

12:33:57 --> 12:34:00

: Aloha. Amanda.

12:34:00 --> 12:34:10

: I've got the alpha roster here of all the accredited VSOs. If anybody here is interested in seeing where their VSO is.

12:34:10 --> 12:34:12

: I've got the database here.

12:34:12 --> 12:34:13

: Thank you.

12:34:15 --> 12:34:18

: I'm left. Any comments?

12:34:18 --> 12:34:21

: Bill and Diane, you got anything?

12:34:22 --> 12:34:37

: If you have the next meeting on September the 15th, please have it before you can have a birthday cake. That's the day before my 80th birthday.

12:34:39 --> 12:34:44

: What flavor, Bobby? Chocolate.

12:34:44 --> 12:34:45

: Oh, oh.

12:34:46 --> 12:34:48

: Please talk some more.

12:34:48 --> 12:34:50
: Okay.

12:34:50 --> 12:34:51
: Okay, bye.

12:34:53 --> 12:34:57
: That's great. Thank you.

12:34:59 --> 12:35:02
: All right.

12:35:02 --> 12:35:06
: Nothing else is the end.

12:35:09 --> 12:35:12
: Evelyn, what do you dismiss and prefer, please?

12:35:13 --> 12:35:20
: And before I do, I want to read one scripture. Romans 12 and 10 says,
Love one another with brotherly affection.

12:35:20 --> 12:35:25
: Outdo one another in showing honor. Let's pray.

12:35:25 --> 12:35:30
: Lord, thank you for this time of discussion today.

12:35:30 --> 12:35:35
: Don Kunze has mentioned the ability to sit around the table and talk.

12:35:35 --> 12:35:44
: and get things accomplished, get things going. Now, I pray that we can
just take all of the things that have been discussed today.

12:35:45 --> 12:35:52
: Work on, build on, and make them effective for the American Legion and
for the Department of Oklahoma.

12:35:52 --> 12:35:57
: Help us as we pull together to make this one great department.

12:35:58 --> 12:36:02
: For the legionnaires, their families, and their communities.

12:36:02 --> 12:36:04
: We ask for traveling mercies.

12:36:04 --> 12:36:14
: As we go to our homes, protect us and bless every post in the state of
Oklahoma. We pray in Christ's name. Amen. Amen.

12:36:14 --> 12:36:16

: Is it better?

12:36:19 --> 12:36:22

: Sergeant Armstrong. Yes, hello.

12:36:22 --> 12:36:23

Sure.

12:36:28 --> 12:36:35

If you're interested in the status of your VSOs, I'm here with a database.