

**BY - LAWS
OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

Amended at the 128th Mid Term Encampment held Oct. 29, 2011
*Amended per Nat'l. Encampment vote Aug. 2012
**Amended at the 130th Mid Term Encampment held Oct. 12, 2013
***Amended at the 131st Mid Term Encampment held Oct. 25, 2014
****Amended at the 133rd Mid Term Encampment held Oct. 22, 2016
+Added per CinC Martin GO # 11 dated Jan. 3, 2017
++Amended per CinC Day GO #18 dated Feb. 6, 2018

PREAMBLE

We, the descendants of Soldiers, Sailors, Marines or *Revenue Cutter Service who served in the Army or Navy of the United States of America during the War of the Rebellion of 1861 to 1865, have formed this patriotic and fraternal order, for the purpose and objects in this Constitution set forth; and in so doing pledge ourselves to commemorate our forefathers' deeds; to render loyal service to our Country and to promote the maintenance of unqualified American citizenship with respect for and honor to the flag.

**++ ARTICLE I
ORGANIZATION**

This Department shall be constituted and remain Constituted as provided by the Constitution and Regulations (C&R) governing the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and shall be known as **“The Department of Illinois, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.** This Department is organized as an unincorporated association under the laws of The State of Illinois and is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code. Camps and any Sons of Veteran Reserve (SVR) Units under the jurisdiction of the Department of Illinois, shall also comply with the wording of this article and have it so incorporated into their Camp/Unit By-Laws.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

To perpetuate the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic and of the men who saved the Union from 1861 to 1865; to assist in every practicable way in the preservation and making available for research of documents and records pertaining to the Grand Army of the Republic and its members; to cooperate in doing honor to all who have patriotically served our country in any war; to teach patriotism and the duties of citizenship, the true history of our Country and the love and honor of our flag; to oppose every tendency or movement that would weaken loyalty to, or make for the destruction or impairment of our constitutional Union; and to inculcate and broadly sustain the American principles of representative government, of equal rights and of impartial justice for all.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: DESCENDANT MEMBER: Eligible for membership as a “Descendant Member” shall be all male descendants (whether thru lineal or collateral line) not less than fourteen (14) years of age, who are blood relatives of Soldiers, Sailors Marines or members of the Revenue Cutter Service, who were regularly mustered and served honorably discharged from or died in the service of the Army, Navy, Marines or Revenue Cutter Service of the United States of America or such State regiments as were called into service and were subject to orders of the United States general officers, during the War of the Rebellion between April 12, 1861 and April 9, 1865; who have never been convicted of any infamous or heinous crime; and who have or whose ancestors through whom membership is claimed, have never voluntarily borne arms against the government of the United States of America.

Section 2: ASSOCIATE MEMBER: Eligible for membership as an “Associate: shall be all males not less than fourteen (14) years of age who do not meet the genealogical qualifications set forth in the preceding section, but otherwise meet the requirements for membership established by the National Organization. The number of Associates in any Camp shall not exceed one-third (1/3) of the total Camp roster at the time of election. At no time during a meeting of a Camp or Department shall business be transacted if the number of Associates in attendance exceeds forty-nine (49) percent of the total in attendance at said meeting. Associates may hold office as well as appointive Positions and may serve on committees. Associates shall not be counted toward the required number of members to establish a new Camp. The name of Associates may not appear on a Camp Charter, nor may Associates be designated as Charter Members of a Camp. Associates otherwise enjoy all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership.

Section 3: LIFE MEMBER: Members who pay the requisite Life Membership fee as established by the National Organization. Life Members are exempt from the National per-capita tax and otherwise enjoy all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of membership.

Section 4: HONORARY MEMBER: The Commander in Chief, upon recommendation from a Camp, Department or the National Council of Administration and with the approval of the National Council of Administration, may grant Honorary Membership to persons of acknowledged eminence who are especially distinguished for conspicuous and consistent loyalty to the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, and who have been active and eminent in maintaining the supremacy of the same and are known not to be eligible for membership in our Order. The National Organization, Department and Camps shall not impose the per-capita tax, fees, dues or any other monetary assessment on Honorary Members. Honorary Members are entitled to a free subscription to “The Banner.”

Section 5: JUNIOR MEMBERS. Males between the ages of six (6) and fourteen (14) years of age who meet the qualifications in Section 1.

Section 6: JUNIOR ASSOCIATE. Males between the ages of six (6) and fourteen (14) years of age who meet the qualifications in Section 2.

Section 7: All classes of membership are to be consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Organization.

***Section 8:** Minimum requirements for having Junior/Junior Associates between the age of 14–18 and Member/Member Associates between the age of 14-18 in Camps and at Camp events.

- A) All Junior/Junior Associate members 6-14 and Member/Member Associates between the ages of 14-18 shall be accompanied by a Parent or Legal Guardian when participating in ANY SUVCW activity.
- B) At no time will a non-related Brother be permitted “one on one” contact with a Brother Junior/Junior Associate between the age of 6-14 and Member/Member Associate between the age of 14-18 unless there are at least two (2) Members over 18 are present at all times.
- C) Any Brother who witnesses or suspects, in good faith, any type of physical, mental or sexual abuse of any member under the age of 18 will report such suspicion to local authorities first and local Camp and Department Commanders immediately.
- D) Every member over the age of 18 who may have contact with a Brother under the age of 18 should complete training related to protecting children from abuse of any type, such as the free training available from the Boy Scouts of America. While this training is not a requirement, it is highly suggested that it be used as a tool to protect our youth and Brothers.
- E) Ultimately, all Brothers also need to comply with all applicable Federal, State and Local laws pertaining to child abuse.

ARTICLE IV RELIGION AND POLITICS

The Order being strictly non-sectarian and non-partisan, the introduction or discussion of sectarian or partisan topics is strictly prohibited.

ARTICLE V ORGANIZATION

Section 1: The several constituted bodies of the Order shall be as follows:

FIRST - Of organizations known as Camps, each shall bear a name and number,

SECOND - Of State organizations known as Departments,

THIRD - Of the National Organization, of which the National Encampment is the supreme governing body,

FORTH - Of a Military Department known as the Sons of Veteran Reserves,

FIFTH - Eligible from areas of the State where no Camp exists may become Members-at-Large attached to Department Headquarters. Dues for such members shall not be less than the normal National and Department per capita taxes. Membership application fees for new Members-at-Large shall be Ten Dollars (\$10.00) which shall be placed in the Permanent Fund.

Section 2: The Department is a chartered entity of the National Order, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Section 3: The supreme authority of the Department shall be vested in the Department Encampment. To this end, no form of government shall be considered as legally established until the same has been submitted to and duly approved by the Department Encampment. Between sessions of the Department Encampment, the business of the Department shall be carried on in accordance with policies established by the Department Encampment or, when it has not fixed a policy, by the Council of Administration, which shall have the authority and duty usually exercised by a Board of Trustees.

Section 4: The Department Encampment shall act as a final court of appeals from all orders, decisions and rulings of the Department Commander, and the determination of such appeal at any meeting shall not be subject to review at any subsequent meeting.

ARTICLE VI DEPOSITORY PROVISIONS

Section 1: No part of the net income of the Department shall inure to the benefit of or be distributed to, its members, trustees, officers or other private persons except that the Department shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered.

Section 2: The Department and its members are permitted to endorse and actively encourage the support of resolutions adopted by the National Order.

Section 3: The Department shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. The Department is not permitted to financially fund partially or totally any political campaign.

**ARTICLE VI
DEPOSITORY PROVISIONS CON'T.**

Section 4: Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Articles, the Department shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be undertaken (a) by a corporation exempt from the Federal Income Tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Regulations) or, (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible Under Section 170(3)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Regulations).

Section 5: Upon the dissolution of the Department, the Department Council shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the Department, dispose of all the assets of the Department exclusively for the purposes of the Department in such a manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall as that time qualify under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Regulations) as the Department Council shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed by the Circuit Court of the County in which the principle office of the Department is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine.

******Section 6:** A Department, with the permission of the National Organization SUVCW, may enter into a lawsuit within its area of jurisdiction to prove lawful ownership of Civil War era property or G. A. R. property. This permission may be granted through either the action of the National Encampment or that of the Council of Administration via a General Order of the Commander in Chief SUVCW. The Department should be aware that any monetary liability regarding the lawsuit falls upon the Department to pay.

**ARTICLE VI
DEPOSITORY PROVISIONS CON'T.**

- ++**Section 7:** Activities not in furtherance of exempt purposes: No part of the net earnings, if any, of this unincorporated association, shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers or other private persons, except that the unincorporated association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes described in Section 501(c)3. No substantial part of the activities of the unincorporated association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the unincorporated association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these by-laws, the unincorporated association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an unincorporated association exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an unincorporated association, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)2 of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- ++**Section 8:** In the case of surrender or forfeiture of the Camp/Department/Other Unit Charter, all Camp/Department/Other Unit property and assets shall be turned over to the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War via the Department Commander of the effected Department acting as his duly authorized representative to collect and hold all such property in trust for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, an organization exempt from taxes under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- ++**Section 9:** All property of the Camp/Department/Other Unit shall be held for the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, as a charitable trust that is held and used for the purpose for which the Order exists. Any such transfer or disposal within six (6) months of disbandment or surrender of the Camp/Department/Other Unit Charter without the written consent of the National Commander-in-Chief of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is prohibited. The property and funds of the Camp/Department/Other Unit shall not be divided among its members.
- ++**Section 10:** In the event the National Organization, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, no longer exists, said property and funds shall revert to the benefit of the first and any remaining organization of the Allied Orders of the Grand Army of the Republic or in their absence, to the State archives Illinois.

++Section 11: Notwithstanding the above language, upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

ARTICLE VII DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Section 1: The elected officers of the Department shall consist of the Department Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Department Secretary, Department Treasurer, and three (3) members of the Department Council.

Section 2: No member shall be eligible for election to the office of Department Commander unless he has served as a Camp Commander. No member shall be eligible for election to the office of Department Commander who is not present and entitled to vote at the Department Encampment. No member may hold more than one elected office at a time.

Section 3: On assuming office, the Department Commander shall appoint a Dept. Patriotic Instructor, Dept. Chaplain, Dept. Guide, Dept. Color Bearer, Dept. Historian, Dept. Counselor, Dept. Camp Organizer, Dept. Chief of Staff, Dept. Graves Registrar, Dept. G. A. R. Highway Officer, Dept. Aide, Dept. Guard, Dept. Signals Officer, and any other Department Officer as he may deem necessary.

Section 4: Unless noted otherwise, the term of all elective and appointed officers shall be for one year. The Department Commander is limited to no more than two (2) consecutive years.

ARTICLE VII DEPARTMENT OFFICERS CON'T.

Section 5: Any vacancies which may occur in an elective office in the Department shall be filled by a majority vote of the Department Council for the period until the next regular meeting of the Department, when an election for the remainder of the unexpired term is held.

Section 6: Any officer delinquent in or failing to perform the duties of his office may be removed by the Department Commander or the Order's Commander in Chief.

**ARTICLE VIII
DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1: Department Commander:

A: The Department Commander shall be the Executive Officer of the Department, charged with the duty of administering the affairs of the Department. He shall preside at all meetings of the Department, appoint all standing committees (of which he shall be a member ex-officio) unless otherwise prescribed by the Encampment or by-laws.

B: The Department Commander shall at frequent times contact Camps, Camp Officers, Department Officers and issue orders and official communications. Perform all other duties listed in the Job Description for Department Commander in the National

Section 2: The Department Sr. or Jr. Vice Commander shall respectively perform the duties of the Department Commander in case of vacancy or senior officers' inability to act. Perform all other duties listed in the Job Description for Sr. and Jr. Vice Commander in the National Organization SUVCW Constitution and By-laws.

Section 3: The Department Secretary shall keep a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Department Encampment. He shall keep and be custodian of the files and membership records of the Department and shall keep such other records in connection with his office as may be required by the Department Commander or the Department Encampment. He shall receive and give a receipt for remittance made to the Department Headquarters for Charter fees, per capita tax or any other purpose and shall forward all remittances to the Department Treasurer. He shall make a full and detailed statement of the transactions of the Department, which report shall be read to the Department Encampment and acted upon by it as circumstances may require. ****He shall retain a record of all Dishonorable Discharges received from the Executive Director and provide each Camp in the Department a copy of Dishonorable Discharge reports received from the Executive Director. As well as all other duties listed in the National Organization SUVCW Job Description.

ARTICLE VIII DUTIES OF OFFICERS CON'T

Section 4: The Department Treasurer shall hold the funds of the Department and pay out the same upon requisition in due form from the Department Secretary approved by the Department Commander. He shall be in charge of all property of the Department not otherwise provided for, shall keep a true and correct account of all receipts and expenditures and perform such other duties as may pertain to his office.

He shall make a full and detailed statement of the financial condition of the Department, which report shall be read at the Department Encampment and acted upon by it as circumstances may require. He shall give a bond in the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00), unless otherwise fixed by the Department Council. The expense of any surety bond shall be paid by the Department. As well as all other duties listed in the National Organization SUVCW Job Description.

Section 5: The Department Council immediately after its installation shall meet and elect a Chairman and Secretary. It shall audit the books and accounts of the Department Treasurer prior to the convening of the Department Encampment, examine the receipts and vouchers pertaining thereto, and shall make a report of its findings to the Department Encampment for such actions as may be necessary. It shall devise and recommend such measures as will enable the Department to meet all its necessary expenditures. It shall annually prepare a proposed budget for consideration and approval at the Department Encampment. As well as all other duties listed in the National Organization Job Description.

Section 6: All other appointed Department Officers shall perform the duties of their respective office as listed in the National Organization SUVCW Job Descriptions.

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Department Commander has the authority to establish such committees and appoint the Chairmen as are necessary for the proper operation of the Department.

ARTICLE X ENCAMPMENTS

Section 1: The Department Encampment shall meet at the same time and place as the Department Allied Orders. In case there should be no place of meeting arranged for the Allied Orders, then the place of meeting shall be left to the Department Commander, the Department Secretary, the Department Treasurer and the Department Council. The Department shall hold its Mid Term Encampment in the Fall and its Annual Encampment in the Spring at a time and place agreed to at the previous Encampment.

**ARTICLE X
ENCAMPMENTS CON'T.**

Section 2: All Camps and each member of the Department shall be notified of the date and place of the Department Encampment at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the same.

Section 3: The Department Commander, by and with the consent of the Department Council, is authorized to call a Special Meeting of the Department should he consider it necessary to do so, but no business shall be transacted at such meeting other than that set forth in the call therefore.

Section 4: The Department Commander shall have authority to appoint all Committees necessary for the success of the Department Encampment. The Department Officers, elected and appointed, shall assume their duties at once.

*****Section 5:** The membership of the Department Encampment shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) All Past Commanders in Chiefs, Past Department Commanders and Past Camp Commanders, in good standing, who have served a full term or having been elected to fill a vacancy and have served to the end of that term, the sitting Department Commander and the sitting Camp Commanders.
- (b) One (1) delegate from each Camp, whatever its membership and one (1) additional delegate for every ten (10) Brothers or major fraction thereof, based upon the annual Camp report next preceding the Encampment; and its own elective officers (except aides).
- (c) Any Brother serving as Camp Secretary, Camp Treasurer or Camp Secretary/Treasurer continuously in office for a period of ten (10) years may have conferred upon him the rank of Past Camp Commander with its voting privileges at Department Encampments
- (d) Any Brother serving as Department Secretary, Department Treasurer or Department Secretary/Treasurer continuously in office for a period of ten (10) years may have conferred upon him the rank of Past Department Commander with its voting privileges at Department Encampments
- (e) All delegates and alternate delegates to a Department Encampment must be elected to such office at their respective Annual Camp meetings. If a Brother is not duly elected, the respective Camp Secretary shall not issue a delegate or alternate delegate card to such Brother.
- (f) Vacancies in Delegate representation to and at the time of the Department Encampment may be filled by a vote of delegates from the Camp in attendance at the Encampment; the Camp Commander having the prior right to appoint Brothers to fill vacancies.
- (g) A Camp which fails to pay its per capita dues or other indebtedness or fails to make reports, shall not be entitled to representation in the Department Encampments.
- (h) Voting on all matters requiring a vote brought before the Department Encampment including election of Department Officers, delegates and alternates to the National Encampment are vested solely with the delegates as listed above.

**ARTICLE X
ENCAMPMENTS CON'T.**

- (i) All delegates to the Department Encampment as prescribed above will be registered and a list compiled prior to the Encampment and a report made to the Encampment after opening ceremonies are done.

*****Section 6:** The membership of the National Encampment shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) All Past Commanders in Chiefs and Department Commanders in good standing who have served a full term, or having been elected to fill a vacancy, have served to the end of that term, and present Department Commanders.
- (b) Of one (1) delegate from each Department whatever its membership and one (1) additional delegate for every twenty five (25) Brothers or major fraction thereof in good standing based upon the Department Annual Report next preceding the National Encampment.
- (c) Any Brother serving as Department Secretary, Department Treasurer or Department Secretary/Treasurer holding office as such for ten (10) consecutive years may have bestowed upon him the rank of Past Department Commander with its voting privileges at the National Encampment.
- (d) All delegates and alternate delegates to a National Encampment must be elected to such office at the Annual Department Encampment. If a Brother is not duly elected, the Department Secretary shall not issue a delegate or alternate delegate card to such Brother.
- (e) Vacancies in delegate representation to and at the time National Encampments are held, may be filled by the Department Commander or the Chairman of the Department delegation. The Department Commander in all instances having the priority or right to appoint.
- (f) If the Department fails to pay its per capita dues or other indebtedness or fails to make reports, shall not be entitled to representation in National Encampment meetings. In addition, should a Departments report(s) be deemed incomplete by the National Secretary, they shall be returned for correction. Should such reports not be immediately corrected and returned, the National Secretary may petition the Council of Administration for a ruling that such Department be deemed to have failed to make reports.

**ARTICLE XI
FINANCES**

Section 1: All Department Officers shall pay their individual expenses to the Department Encampment.

Section 2: All delegates. Past Department Commanders and others entitled to represent the Department at the meetings of the National Organization shall pay their individual expenses to the National Encampment.

**ARTICLE XI
FINANCES CON'T.**

Section 3: Requests for reimbursements of routine expenses by the Department Officers and Committees up to the amount budgeted, shall be paid by the Department Treasurer, with the approval of the Department Commander. Requests for reimbursement in excess of the amount budgeted, must be submitted to the Department Encampment and, if approved, shall be ordered paid. Proper receipts and accountability must be given to the Department Treasurer at the time reimbursement is requested.

**ARTICLE XII
FEES**

Section 1: ****The Department shall pay to the National Organization: Twenty-Five dollars (\$25.00) for the Department Charter; Twenty-Five dollars (\$25.00) for each new Camp Charter, which amount shall accompany the application and be forfeited if the Camp is not instituted within one (1) year from the date of application; and Ten dollars (\$10.00) for the reinstatement of Camps which have been suspended; Twenty five dollars (\$25.00) for the reinstatement of Camps which have voluntarily surrendered their Charter or which had their Charter revoked provided that this fee shall be waived if a Charter exists.

Section 2: **The annual per capita tax payable by Camps of the Department of Illinois to the Department Illinois shall be in the amount of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per member payable at the time of filing Form 27 Camp Annual Reports. Real Sons and Life Members are exempt from the per capita tax per National Constitution.

Section 3: Five (5) members shall be required for reinstatement of a disbanded or dropped Camp. Reinstatement of the Camp shall take effect upon payment of a one dollar (\$1.00) reinstatement fee and a years dues by each member.

Section 4: All remittances for supplies must be forwarded with the requisition for such supplies to the National Secretary/Treasurer. All remittances for charter fees must be forwarded with the application for charter and all remittances for per capita tax must be forwarded with the annual report to the National Secretary.

Section 5: The initiation for newly elected members shall not be less than ten dollars (\$10.00), five dollars (\$5.00) of which shall be forwarded to the Department Headquarters. Said fee shall be paid by the candidate on or before the time of initiation.

ARTICLE XIII OPERATION OF CAMPS

Section 1: Camp Commanders shall see that all reports are made out, with the per capita tax indicated thereon, and all monies due the Department forwarded to the Department Secretary by April 30th of each year. A Camp for which the per capita tax has not been received at Department Headquarters by the 10th of May will be considered in arrears.

Section 2: A Camp may select any Past Department Commander or Past Camp Commander to install its Officers.

Section 3: Each Camp Commander shall see that the report of the Camp's Patriotic Instructor is prepared and forwarded to the Department Patriotic Instructor as required by regulations.

Section 4: Each Camp shall have a Welfare Committee to be appointed by the Camp Commander to serve during the year. This Committee shall consist of one (1) member for each ten (10) members of the Camp, with a minimum of three (3), and the Chairman to be designated by the Camp Commander. It shall be the duty of the Welfare Committee to assist in maintaining the Camps' membership at the desired numerical strength, to actively aid in obtaining new members by preparing lists of eligible members, to suggest the means of creating and sustaining interest in Camp meeting and such other matters as may be of value to the Camp. It shall also assist members of the Camp requiring aid in obtaining employment.

Section 5: In the event a Camp votes to disband or otherwise dissolve, the Camp Commander, or the next senior officer of record, shall notify the Department Secretary in writing. At that time, the original charter must be returned to the Department Secretary.

Upon dissolution, the Camp Council shall pay or make provisions for the payment of all liabilities of the Camp. The remaining assets of the Camp shall revert to the Department for disposition as determined by the Department Encampment. These funds shall initially be put into a special account and held for two (2) years in hopes of the Camp being reactivated.

All possessions of the Camp, such as flags, standards, gavel kits, awards, minutes and records of the Camp and any other objects owned by the Camp shall be turned over to the Department Historian for safe keeping.

Section 6: New Camps may be formed subject to the requirements defined by the National Regulations.

**ARTICLE XIII
OPERATION OF CAMPS CON'T.**

****Section 7: All Camps shall annually elect a Camp Commander; Senior Vice Commander; Junior Vice Commander; three (3) members of the Camp Council; Secretary; Treasurer (or Secretary/Treasurer) Delegates and Alternates. Elections shall be held between the first meeting in October and the first meeting in December, inclusive. The Camp Commander; Secretary and Treasurer (or Secretary/Treasurer) shall not serve on the Camp Council.

****Section 8: The Officers of a Camp shall be installed at a regular meeting to be held between the first meeting in November and the first meeting the following January, inclusive. The Camp Shall file a Form 22 Certificate of Election and Installation of Camp Officers (or its replacement) within thirty (30) days of the Camp installation to the Department Secretary. Failure to annually file a Form 22 Certificate of Election and Installation of Camp Officers Could result in the Camp being suspended.

**ARTICLE XIV
PATRIOTIC ACTIVITIES**

Section 1: It shall be the duty of each member of the Illinois Department to properly Observe Memorial Sunday and Memorial Day, and to do all in his power to make these Days commemorative of the deceased veterans of the Civil War.

Section 2: It is the patriotic duty of every member of the Illinois Department to assist in properly observing Lincoln's Birthday (February 12), Washington Birthday (February 12), Flag Day (June 14), Independence Day (July 4) and such other patriotic occasions as may later be designated for honoring the Flag of our Country.

Section 3: The Illinois Department shall operate a "Civil War Registry" which will accept and maintain biographical and genealogical records of Civil War Veterans filed with it by descendants on forms prescribed by the Registry. The Registry is authorized to charge a nominal fee for acceptance of such records and for providing copies of the same when requested.

Section 4: A unit of the Sons of Veteran Reserve (SVR) may be authorized by the Illinois Department for operation in its jurisdiction. The uniform for this unit shall conform to the specifications set forth in the Sons of Veteran Reserve (SVR) National regulations, or be of an acceptable modification such as the uniform of an original Civil War regiment which the unit may be representing.

**ARTICLE XIV
PATRIOTIC ACTIVITIES CON'T.**

Section 5: The formation and operation of Junior Units shall be authorized by the Illinois Department. Each unit may operate as a subunit of a specific Camp and shall be governed by that Camp, its appointed supervisor and the Constitution and Regulations governing the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW). Junior Units shall be composed Of male descendants of not less than eight (8) years of age nor older than the age required for membership in the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW).

******Section 6:** Any member of a Camp may nominate for a Flag Certificate Award, a person, Company or agency that proudly, conspicuously and properly flies or displays the United States Flag. The flag must be properly displayed as outlined in Public Laws 94-344, known As the Federal Flag Code, which contains rules for the handling and displaying of the United States Flag. The Flag Certificate should not be given to any commercial enterprise that Obviously flies it for advertising purposes. Public Law 94-344 as amended appears on the SUVCW website.

**ARTICLE XV
ELECTIONS**

Section 1: All nominations for Department Officers at the Department Encampment shall be made by roll call of the Camps in numerical order.

Section 2: The election of Department Officers shall not be held until the Encampment shall have disposed of all other business before it.

Section 3: If there are no multiple candidates for all elected officers, the Department Commander may request a motion for the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for those nominated. If there is more than one candidate for any elected office, voting shall be by secret ballot. The Department Secretary shall prepare the ballots listing the candidates for each office in alphabetical order. The Department Commander shall appoint, at the time of election, a panel of three (3) members (not candidates) to count the votes and report the results immediately after the voting. Once the results have been reported and verified, the ballots will be destroyed.

Section 4: The Department Commander shall ask the highest ranking officer (current or past), that is not currently being installed, to install the officers.

*****Section 5:** Members of the Department Encampment as specified in Article X Encampments Sections 5 (a) – (i) shall apply and shall be the only members allowed to make nominations and cast votes during election of Department Officers, Department Delegates and Alternates to National Encampments.

ARTICLE XV ELECTIONS CON'T.

*****Section 6:** Order of Officer elections are Department Commander; Sr. Vice Commander; Jr. Vice Commander; Secretary; Treasurer (or Secretary/Treasurer); three (3) Department Council members; and Delegates and Alternates to National Encampments. Elections for each office must be completed prior to balloting on next Officer when there are multiple names for a particular office.

*****Section 7:** Those interested in running for an elected Department Office, MAY submit to the membership of the Department of Illinois, a brief biography of themselves sixty (60) days prior to the Annual Department Encampment via Department newsletter or email.

*****Section 8:** If there are multiple candidates for any elected Department Office, each candidate may be given up to three (3) minutes to speak on their own behalf prior to balloting. When there are multiple names for a particular office, balloting will be by secret paper ballot.

ARTICLE XVI BY-LAWS

Section 1: The Department shall adopt by-laws, subject to the approval of the National Commander in Chief SUVCW.

Section 2: These by-laws may be repealed, modified or amended at any Department Encampment by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Encampment. Proposed changes in the by-laws shall be submitted by the Camps to the Department Secretary ninety (90) days prior to the annual Department Encampment for publishing in the Department Order that carries the Department call. By-law changes approved at the Department Encampment will then be submitted by ballot to each member for ratification, all ballots will be returned to the Department Secretary within thirty (30) days, and the ballot to be tabulated by the Department Secretary and Department Council, with the results of the balloting to be announced in the next General Order.

Section 3: All by-laws and amendments thereto, heretofore in force in this Department are hereby repealed, including all motions or resolutions which may have been adopted by Department Encampments from time to time concerning matters covered by these by-laws.

Section 4: Each Camp shall adopt a set of by-laws consistent with the Department of Illinois and National Organization SUVCW Constitution and By-Laws. Camp by-laws and amended Camp by-laws are subject to the approval of the Department of Illinois Commander.

Section 5: A copy of each Camps by-laws shall be sent to the Department of Illinois SUVCW Secretary to be kept on file.

**ARTICLE XVII
ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Section 1: The order in which business shall be transacted at Department Encampments shall be as set forth in Article X of Chapter V of the Regulations of our National Organization.

Section 2: “Roberts Rules of Order - Revised” shall be used to establish general procedures for all meetings of the Department.

++Revised per GO #18 issued by CinC Mark Day February 6, 2018

Attest: _____
Stephen T. Aarli
Dept. Secretary

John Bigwood
Dept. Commander

Approved: _____
Commander in Chief

Date: _____