



# 7<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT NEWS

## November 2024



*Our Legion  
Family*

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**COMMANDER**  
Carl Wilson  
C 320-304-5333

**VICE CDR AT LARGE**  
Pete Flannery  
C 507-213-7800

**MEMBERSHIP DIR**  
Jan Ekert  
C 320-339-9927

**VICE CDR – AREA A**  
Victor Gades  
C 320-288-6610

**VICE CDR – AREA B**  
Jacob Hurst  
C 320-295-2443

**VICE CDR – AREA C**  
Don Dufner  
C 320-493-5824

**VICE CDR – AREA D**  
John Jones  
C 507-469-7995

**ADJUTANT**  
Mark Kern  
C 320-221-5277

**FINANCE OFFICER**  
Chip Manson  
C 320-220-3001

**CHAPLAIN**  
David Ecker  
C 605-695-2409

**SGT AT ARMS**  
Keith Seidler  
C 320-309-3411

**HISTORIAN**  
Karen Welander  
C 320-368-0760

**JUDGE ADVOCATE**  
Richard Wog  
C 320-905-3028

## AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA

FROM THE SEVENTH DISTRICT COMMANDER - CARL WILSON

Hello to the Mighty 7th District: I hope everyone is doing well and everything is running smoothly for you at your post and at home. This is the time of year that many of you are working extremely hard to get ready for the upcoming winter season. I have also been busy trying to make it to different functions around the District which I have only been able to make a few because of my work schedule. But I would like to thank all those that have invited me whether I was able to make it or not, I am truly honored just to be invited. Remember if any of you are having problems, need help or just want me to come down for a visit, I'm only a call or E-mail away.

I see the 7th District has moved up to 4th place in Membership for the Department of Minnesota, after starting in 7th place back in September. Way to go everyone!! Remember to turn your memberships in as soon as they come in and don't sit on them until more come in.

I would like to give an update on my Commanders project as of the writing of this article. If you don't remember what my project is, it is Soldier 6, a non-profit organization that trains K-9's for Veterans, Police Officers, First Responders, and Correctional Officers, suffering from PTSD and other emotional problems they may have suffered during their time of service. As of today, there has been no Post or individuals that have donated to my project which I am truly sad to say. It is my belief that if we could help this organization help save one person, our donation to them would be huge.

I would now like to give an update on the 7th District Junior shooting club at American Legion Post #278. In the first newsletter I stated that they would have 4 kids shooting for the club. Well, they had their first night

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**\*MARK YOUR CALENDERS \*  
7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT HAPPENINGS:**

**District 7 Mid-Winter  
Post 186 Olivia  
January 18  
Snow date is January 25**

**District 7 Convention  
Post 204 Echo  
May 17**

**DEPARTMENT EVENTS:**

**OTHER EVENTS:**

**Pearl Harbor Day Rally  
Dec 7, 2024  
Post 545, Spicer, MN**

**Sweetheart Rally  
February 8, 2025  
103 N Maple St  
Royalton, MN 56373**

**Appreciation Rally  
March 8, 2025  
Post 580, Chanhassen, MN**

**Minnesota Legion College Spring 2025  
April 24-27, 2025  
15000 Minnesota 115  
Little Falls, MN 56345**

## Committee Chairpersons

### American Education

Bill Kuperus 320-905-1868

### Americanism/Oratorical

Ruben Nathe 320-593-8654

### Legion Baseball

Joe Dollerschell 320-894-8181

### Blood Program

Jan Ekert 320-339-9927

### Boy Scouts

Chip Manson 320-220-3001

### Boys State

Donald Brehmer 320-843-3361

### Children and Youth

Karen Welander 320-368-0760

### Employment

Karen Welander 320-368-0760

### Junior Shooting Sports

Carl Wilson 320-304-5333

### Law and Order

Carl Wilson 320-304-5333

### Legionville/Safety Patrol

Victor Gades 320-288-6810

### Legislative

Mark Kern 320-221-5277

### Legion Softball

Hal Meyer 507-530-4412

### National Security/Foreign Relations

Jan Ekert 320-339-9927

### Public Relation & Media

Pete Pedersen 702-553-5713

### Rehabilitation Advisory

Keith Seidler 320-309-3411

### Sons of the American Legion

Cal VanHorn 320-589-3495

### American Legion Riders

Garylee Davenport 320-224-1895

## COMMANDER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about 6 weeks ago and 15 kids came out to shoot and become a part of The American Legion Junior Shooting Program. So, they are working hard to get more equipment to outfit all the kids.

They are working on grants and other fundraising but all that takes time. So, if any of you or your post would like to help them out you can contact, Vikingland Junior Shooting at 211 8th Ave. SE. Elbow Lake, MN. 56531. They have not done any competitions yet, as they are working on the fundamentals of shooting before they go beat everyone at the competitions. They do have some very good shooters in their club.

In conclusion, I hope to see as many of you that can at the Pearl Harbor Day Rally on Dec 7th. The rally is being hosted by our own American Legion Post #545, in Spicer MN.

Carl R. Wilson

District 7 Commander

Serving Veterans from the Past to The Future.

## **\*\*ATTENTION POST COMMANDERS, ADJUTANTS AND MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORS\*\***

Please update your Post roster. There are many instances where members need to be contacted, and the information is not correct or is missing although. Go around your meeting and ensure all phone and email information is current. In one instance both phone numbers were blocked and there was no e-mail address in mylegion.org. In the near future we will be able to send a newsletter through mylegion.org at no cost to the District. Let's get this done.

Remember that when the address is not correct or missing your members are not getting their Legionnaire or their Legion Magazine. Please send any changes in your Post leadership contacts to the District Adjutant Mark Kern at [markkern3@hotmail.com](mailto:markkern3@hotmail.com) and we will get the District Directory updated and out to each post via email and hardcopy.

## ADJUTANT'S CORNER

Mark Kern

Page nine of this newsletter is a letter from the National American  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3**

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER – Dave Ecker

Here we are in November already. It seems like the 4th of July was just yesterday. This month is a special month for Veterans, obviously November 11th being Veterans Day but also Thanksgiving is this month also. Veterans Day is the day that we honor all Veterans. Many of us will be assisting with a Veterans Day program either at our local school or at our Legion Post. It is a day for remembering and storytelling, but it should also be a day for thanking God that we are still here. Many Veterans have problems, but all have one common attribute and that is that we all served our country. We must remember this and thank God that we are here and ask that He helps all Veterans to heal no matter what the wounds are whether they are mental or physical.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and again it is a time to thank God for all that we have. Many families gather to count their blessings on this day and often forget about that lonely Veteran that lives down the street or maybe even next door. Have you ever invited a lonely Veteran to join you for Thanksgiving dinner? Maybe this would be a good year to start a new family tradition. Remember to thank God every day for all He has given us.

**Dave Ecker**  
**7<sup>th</sup> District Chaplain**

**Auxiliary Officer/Contacts**

President  
Sandy Wersal 320-354-4517

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Jennifer Hurst 707-419-1428

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Kathy Schmiedeker 320-295-2104

1<sup>st</sup> Executive Committee Member  
Cassandra Mahoney 320-305-0436

2<sup>nd</sup> Executive Committee Member  
Pamela Gades 320-589-2147

Secretary  
Mary Kuperus 320-212-3278

Treasurer  
Bev Dresser 320-354-5390

Immediate Past President  
Hope Wilson 320-304-0809

Chaplin  
Samantha Stai 320-295-2330

Parliamentarian  
Hope Wilson 320-304-0809

Sgt-at-Arms  
Robyn Scott 320-434-0431

Advisors  
Wanda Seidler  
Cheryl Gilmer-Schauman  
Karla Minnick

**Honorary Junior Officers**

President  
Brooklyn Mahoney

Vice President  
Riley Wolbeck

Secretary  
Riley Wolbeck

Historian  
Miley Mahoney

Sgt-at-Arms  
Miley Mahoney

Chaplin  
Coral Hurst

**ADJUTANT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2**

Legion Judge Advocate titled Four Rules of an American Legion Program. Please take a look at the letter and provide it to your membership so they are aware of the rules for the programs identified. Page ten of this newsletter is from The Minnesota Legion Department, which has established QR codes to communicate with your legislators. Each code identifies the area in which it is representing. Please use the codes to contact your state legislators and tell them that you support the efforts to reduce the property tax, charitable gambling or the claim sharks, it only takes a couple of minutes to complete and send. Just use your phone camera and hold it over the QR code and click the link when it shows up on your screen.

**Mark Kern**  
**7<sup>th</sup> District Adjutant**

**MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**

**Jan Ekert**

Hello “Mighty Seventh” Well 2 weeks in a row we have held fourth place in membership with a percentage of 63.50% for the week of October 9th, I hope that we can keep climbing and not lose our momentum. We need to keep working hard to get those numbers up. If your post is having problems call me. I will help make phone calls, or come and talk with your members, whatever it takes. All of you should have gotten your Posts Goal numbers for the 2024 – 2025 membership year, if not call me (320-339-9927) and I will get them to you. We do have some posts that have already exceeded the next timeline goal of 55% by October 16th with the next goal pf 65% on November 14th. For your individual members they will receive their 3rd renewal notice somewhere around November 9 through the 15th. Keep those phones working, making those buddy checks and asking for their renewals at your post meetings. I am hoping that many of you took the time to come to the Fall conference in St Cloud on the weekend of the 25th of October, there was much to learn. I know that sometimes it seems that all of the meetings are overwhelming and sometimes members may not realize all of the work that goes on behind the scenes to offer training as well as important information for our members. If you need information again utilize your area Vice Commanders, and our District officers as they can help you with any questions you might have. A word to the area Vice

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

**AREA VICE COMMANDERS NEWS –**

**AREA A**  
**Victor Gades**

Keep those membership renewals moving along. Post Membership directors check 1982's for possible additions to your rosters. Don't forget possible high school members that are delayed enlistments. Catch some snowbirds also before they fly south.

The district is looking for host Posts for Mid-winter and District Convention for the 2026 year. Note a Post home is not required i.e. local community center or fellowship hall are acceptable and may offer more accommodations for the Auxiliary and Sons to have same day meetings. Have A good Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas

**Victor Gades**  
**Area A Vice Commander**

**COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES:**

**VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION -**  
**Keith Seidler**

November 11th is Veterans Day, formally known as Armistice Day. It is a day set aside to thank and honor all those who honorably served in the United States Armed Forces. As your Post plans and participates in Veterans Day observances in your community, remember to include all Veterans. Some Veterans might need assistance such as a reminder phone call or a ride to your event. Plan a visit on Veterans Day to thank those Veterans who are home bound or in nursing homes. Call or plan a visit to a Veteran who might be facing a mental or physical health challenge this Veterans Day.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 3**

**Auxiliary Committee  
Chairman**

Americanism  
Wanda Seidler 320-309-3528

Children and Youth  
Donna Barbknecht 320-262-9321

Community Service  
Robyn Scott 320-434-0431

Constitution & Standing Rules  
Kathy Schmiedeker 320-295-2104

Education  
Pamella Lubenow 320-793-6773

Auxiliary Emergency Fund  
Kathy Kessler 320-905-2090

Finance  
Pam Gades 320-589-2147

Girls State  
Sandy Wersal 320-354-4517

History  
Karla Minnick 320-894-4835

Junior Activities  
Ashley Stai 320-894-7850

Leadership  
Mary Kuperus 320-212-3278

Legislation  
Jennifer Hurst 707-419-1428

Membership  
Jennifer Hurst 707-419-1428

Memorial  
Samantha Stai 320-295-2330

National Security  
Pat Ecker 320-695-2409

Past Presidents Parley  
Hope Wilson 320-304-0809

Poppy  
Ashley Stai 320-894-7850

Public Relation  
Pam Gades 320-589-2147

VA&R  
Deanna Knutson 507-530-3222

Memory Book  
Ashley Stai 320-894-7850

**MEMBERSHIP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

Commanders make contact with the Posts in your area and see if you are able to help them with any issues, concerns and their membership renewals.

**Jan Ekert**  
**7<sup>th</sup> District, Membership Director**

**LEGIONVILLE**  
**Victor Gades**

This year 343 campers attended Legionville. This is a slight increase. District 7 sent or sponsored 13 campers. At these levels Legionville cannot stay afloat and will continue to be a money pit. We as legionnaires need to recruit and sponsor youngsters each year. These youth are our future leaders and citizens. Remember you can co-sponsor, individually, Family sponsor a child. If you have knowledge of boys or girls that would benefit. Please help or direct them to someone who will. This program is under The American Legion Americanism Pillar and counts towards your CPR's. I will be attending the fall Legionville meeting October 19, 2024. I hope to have more information in future articles.

Victor Gades  
Legionville Chair,

**SCOUTING AMERICA**  
**David (Chip) Manson**  
**Boy Scouts, 7<sup>th</sup> District Chairman**

The new Eagle Scout of the Year program is starting soon. This is the perfect time to contact your local Scouting America Troops, see if your post can help promote/support their programs and if any current or future Eagle Scouts need access to the Scholarship Nomination form. Here is the link to the application: [Eagle Scout of the Year Nomination Form | Brochures & Publications | The American Legion](#) . All applications will need to arrive on my desk no later than (NLT) February 15th. The district has a \$500 scholarship for the District 7 Eagle Scout of the Year. Minnesota Department's scholarship is \$2,000 and the National scholarship is \$10,000! If any Scouts, leaders, or posts have any questions on this program, please feel free to contact me at my new phone #: 320-220-3001.

**David (Chip) Manson**  
**Boy Scouts, 7<sup>th</sup> District Chairman**

**VA&R CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3**

Veterans helping Veterans!

Keep an ongoing record of your Post's activities throughout the year. This will make filling out your 2024-2025 Post Service Officers Report next spring a lot easier, and your report will be more complete. Activities that your Post is doing make a difference, so please take the time to record and report.

**Keith Seidler,**  
**VA&R 7<sup>th</sup> District Chairman**

**HISTORIAN**

Posts who invite District Commander Carl Wilson may submit photos of the visit to Karen Welander (320) 368-0760 for inclusion in the history book that is presented to the outgoing commander at the Department Convention in July of each year. The names of the individuals in the picture should also be included. Please forward the photos by text message or email, both work for me. Thank you for your assistance.

**Karen Welander**  
**District 7 Historian**

**Baseball Chair**  
**Joe Dollerschell**

As I compose this month's newsletter entry, I'm watching MLB playoffs and within the past couple of weeks I've also attended multiple college "fall-ball" events where my son is an assistant coach. So, for me, baseball season goes almost year-round. People often ask me in the spring if I'm ready for baseball to start. My pat answer to that is that I've been ready since  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**Karen Welander**

The National Americanism Commission recently met to emphasize the fourth pillar of the American Legion Children and Youth. The dedication to improve the lives of children and youth in need takes on communities locally by adapting to meet the needs of our unique local communities from financial support for provision for school supplies, holiday events, family fun days, warm winter clothes for kids, after school programs, summer activities, lunches and meals. If you know a military family in need of temporary financial assistance (TFA), a \$1,500 cash grant is available. If your post needs assistance to apply for this grant to a military family, please call Karen Welander (320) 368-0760. The Child Welfare Foundation (CWF) assists organizations that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth. CWF awarded grants totaling \$684,050 in 2024.

**Karen Welander**

**Children and Youth District 7 Chairman**

**National Security and Foreign Relations (NSFR)**

**Jan Ekert**

A lot of things have been happening at the National Level that fall under the National Security and Foreign Relations Program. The many topics of discussion included sustaining the readiness of our Reserve Component and their readiness and how this can impact the Active-Duty personnel and their families. Looking at the Basic needs allowance, funding for childcare, health care access for military families, and the BIGGIE Suicide Prevention, remember "BE THE ONE".

The commission also reports on the requests for Ammo and other items from Posts across the nation. The following are the numbers of requests; Ammo 14,880, Rifles 46, Clips 150, and Static Displays 0.

They also work on accounting for those listed as POW/MIA noting that for the time frame of September 30 to October 4 two WWII Veterans were accounted for and Identified and Repatriated 169 service members for this year.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**

**BASEBALL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4**

last September. Now that may or may not be true for you. But it is for many of the players and coaches that your local American Legion Clubs support.

I've often bragged about the saturation of baseball in D7 and the great amount of support that comes from our local clubs. You can all be proud of the number of teams and players you support, financially or otherwise. How does your local club support your team/school? Do you hold annual or ongoing fundraisers? Do you invite your players and coaches to make reports to your meetings and become familiar with your local organization? Are there events your club runs that the coaches and kids could attend so you can encourage them to learn more about the American Legion organization. Either way, I want to emphasize, it will pay off for you and your membership to begin now to discuss how you can give whatever support you can to these young men and their coaches. Fundraising, of course, is the topic that will always come to the forefront of any discussion about supporting your local team. But have you, and the rest of your leadership, considered what other ways you can give support? And what can be done now? I would suggest that a good place to start would be to start a conversation with your current baseball coaches to determine what the needs of the program might be. Is it equipment or uniforms that are needed? Is it help recruiting more coaches or players? Is it help with upgrades to the facility that your team uses, either for games or practices? Many of you have the option to team up with an existing local baseball association that is already working hard with the summer baseball program in your communities.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 6**



## NSFR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

National Security also works to recognize the outstanding Enlisted Soldier of the year, if you know of a soldier who has gone above and beyond talk to them, tell them about the Award and encourage them to submit an application. The process is hopefully going to be streamlined to an online version to make this easier for the soldiers to apply and gather the required documents for submission. An interesting part of this award is that it can also be reflected on their NCOER's and their Military Vitae when they are putting together promotion packets. Keep this in mind as an AWESOME Award.

**National Security and Foreign Relations (NSFR) Chair**  
**Jan Ekert**

## WORLD WAR II STORIES



Roger Dykema has been a Raymond American Legion member for 78 continuous years. Raymond was home for nearly 95 years. He now resides in Osakis MN in an assisted living setting and will be 99 years old in December 2024. When the United States was attacked at Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941, he was still in high school. Roger remembered hearing about the attack that Sunday afternoon after waking up from a nap on the family couch. He then enlisted in the Navy. Being only 17, his parents had to sign paperwork which allowed him to enlist at that young age. Two weeks after graduating from Raymond High School, he attended the University of Minnesota in the V12 officer training program. Roger was planning on training to be a pilot at the Naval air station in Seattle Washington, but when he arrived there, he was informed there were already too many pilots. He then chose gunnery school and trained about three months in Jacksonville, Florida. Soon he was placed on Patrol Bombing Squadron III as a tail gunner. The airplane was a PB4Y, which was a modified B24. The main crew duty was to carry out anti-shipping patrol in the South Pacific. When asked about being a tail gunner, Roger, jokingly replied, "It was good, because sitting at the back of the plane, I could see where we just came from!" He said their plane usually flew at around 7,000 feet, because if they

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 7**

## BASEBALL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

The bottom line is that it is never too soon to begin thinking about the many ways you can show support to your team and coaches.

**Joe Dollerschell**  
**District 7 MN Legion Baseball**  
**320-894-8181**



**Blood Committee Chair**  
**Jan Ekert**

I am hopeful that those of you who attended the Fall Conference in St Cloud in October had the information about the Blood Drive. The Blood Drive was held on Thursday October 24 from 12pm to 5pm. The goal for donating was 38 with that being the number to continue to hold this during the conference. Remember any of your members who donate blood throughout the reporting year. These reports are to be sent to me as the Districts Blood Chair and should arrive at your Posts early in January of 2025, and sent to me no later than April 10, 2025. These reports are due to the Department at the end of April and as the Blood Chair I will select 3 Posts in our District. The report you compile should include Legion, Auxiliary, and SAL members who have donated blood. It should include the number of Units donated, did your Post sponsor a Bloodmobile Drive and how many units were donated through your Posts efforts. Please fill out the report and get the credit for what your Post is doing.

**Jan Ekert**  
**Blood Committee Chair**

**STORIEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6**

flew above 10,000 feet, they would have needed oxygen. They typically flew at a speed of 150 knots (about 172 MPH). During Roger’s war service, he spent about six months on the island of Palawan, along with short stays on Maui, Johnston Atoll, Eniwetok Atoll, Truk Atoll, Guam and New Zealand. Recalling one of the first, long flights with his crew, Roger stated, “We flew the full distance from San Diego, California to Maui, Hawaii at night in complete radio silence, so the enemy couldn’t tell where we were. Our pilot was a very smart guy, as he used only celestial navigation (stars) to keep us on track. Roger added, “We were only 10 miles off track from Maui, which was pretty good by just following the stars.” When asked about the food served to troops, he said the most common meal was SOS (meat and gravy on bread). They would often use an aluminum cup to dip hot coffee out of a big can. The most difficult part of being away from home during WWII, Roger said was “missing being able to freely communicate with family. We could send a letter on occasion, but we couldn’t say much. Every letter we wrote was opened before it was sent, to be sure we weren’t writing anything that could jeopardize us or the war effort.”

Roger was on three days of R&R (rest and relaxation) in Manila when they were told of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, meaning that the Japanese would surrender, and the war was over. Within weeks, he was on his way home. After the war, Roger attended Dunwoody College to learn the plumbing trade. He then spent the rest of his working years as a plumber, serving Raymond and the surrounding area. When he returned to Raymond in the mid to late 40s, he said that Raymond was a thriving community. He recalled the town had two general merchandise stores, two butcher shops that sold various groceries, two banks, a movie theater, post office, three restaurants (one of which included a hotel), three barbershops and the town had a doctor and a dentist! He married Carolyn Goeman in 1951 and they raised four boys. Roger emphasized that if any young person was thinking about joining the military, they should give it strong consideration. “It’s very educational, a great way to see the world, and I was proud to serve.”

**Final Thoughts from Commander Wilson**

Final thoughts from the District Commander. Over the past month I have been asked to help a post or two with problems that have come up in their post. In talking with these post, I have come to realize that most of the problems arise from attitudes in their post. The older members in the post

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

**FINAL THOUGHTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7**

say things need to be done a certain way, whereas the younger ones think it should be done another way. Both ways may work or maybe neither way may work. If a problem comes up, the members need to step back, gather all the info that they can, and come up with a combined plan that benefits the veterans of this great organization. We as the American legion need to STOP the fighting between us. We also need to include the Legion Family and let them know what we are doing. We need to remember that this organization is about the veteran and not the post. There are a lot of posts that do not have a post home, and they work hard to help the veterans of this state. A lot of the post in the District rely on these Legion Family members to accomplish things that benefit the American Legion. The District leadership is here to help and yes they may make mistakes, but remember they are trying to help a new generation of veterans that no one has had to deal with these types of struggles in the past.

**Carl Wilson**

**District 7 Commander**

**Serving Veterans from the Past and into the Future.**



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Department Adjutants & Department Judge Advocates  
DATE: 8/13/2024



### Four Rules of an American Legion Program

Whether a program is chartered by a post, department or national, it is incumbent on The American Legion that we control the actions of that program to best meet the needs of our organization, provide oversight and protect the brand. Therefore, when a body sets up a program, whether it's a Sons of The American Legion squadron or an American Legion Riders chapter, the program itself must be answerable to the body which chartered it.

**Rule #1 - "Leadership"** - All elected and appointed leaders must be confirmed by the parent organization after each selection, or as needed.

**Rule #2 - "Rules"** - All bylaws, amendments and/or standing rules must be presented to the parent organization for confirmation and approval prior to use.

**Rule #3 - "Reports"** - The program will provide to the parent organization: (a) monthly activities reports; (b) quarterly financial reports; (c) an annual financial statement; and (d) any additional report(s) requested by the parent organization.

**Rule #4 - "Controls"** - The parent organization may provide the program with the employer identification number (EIN) and the tax-exemption status with the necessary financial controls over their usage. All program financial accounts must have a minimum of two (2) parental signatories appointed by the parent organization.

*"Parent Organization"* denotes an American Legion organization level as it relates to the program at the post, district, department and/or the national organization.

This will alleviate confusion and problems that sometimes occur when a program initiated in good faith by a parent organization gradually falls out of favor and begins to act as an independent body without answering to the parent affiliate. Any programs that use the name "American Legion" must follow these four rules so that national does not have to enforce intellectual property rights against a subsidiary organization using our name.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark C. Seavey".

Mark C. Seavey, J.D.  
National Judge Advocate



AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA  
VOTER VOICE CAMPAIGNS

**Disabled vets property tax exclusion:**

<https://www.votervoice.net/MNLegion/Campaigns/118453/Respond>



**Claim sharks:** <https://www.votervoice.net/MNLegion/Campaigns/118451/Respond>



**Charitable gambling tax cuts:**

<https://www.votervoice.net/MNLegion/Campaigns/115179/Respond>



**Contact:** Kristy Janigo, The American Legion Department of Minnesota Legislative Chair  
**Phone:** 612-708-9029 **Email:** [Kristy.janigo@gmail.com](mailto:Kristy.janigo@gmail.com)