

## 2021 C+B Amendment Proposals

### #1 - 2021

1. **Bylaw Article 1, Sections 2, 2(a), 4, 6(g), 6(i)**

1. Submitted by Sheldon Goldberg, Ph.D., NEC, Department of Maryland

2. **As it appears now:**

**Section 2.** Eligibility to Active Membership. Service with the armed forces of the United States of America in any of its wars, campaigns, conflicts or expeditions, shall embrace service including, but not limited to, that for which medals have been awarded or in the field in a foreign country in action in which there were killed or wounded on the side of the United States troops participating. Further, the National Commander, by proclamation, upon advice and consent of the Chairman of the National Executive

Committee and the National Executive Director may declare any circumstances of arms, and any person therein, eligible for active membership, subject to other membership criteria.

**Section 2(a): See proposed change.**

**Section 4. Associate Membership.** Any person who is a citizen of the United States of America, and of the Jewish faith, not otherwise eligible to Active Membership, shall be eligible for Associate Membership and be entitled to all the rights and privileges of active members, except the right to act as a delegate of any echelon, provided he or she qualifies as follows:

a) Who, during the time of any war, campaign or conflict in which the United States of America was an active participant, was a member of the armed forces of any country allied to the United States of America in that war, campaign or conflict, provided however, that no person, discharged or released under conditions other than honorable from any such service shall be eligible to membership; (Amended 8/97)

**Section 6(g).** Any dishonorably discharged member, after a lapse of seven years, upon good cause being shown, may apply to National Headquarters for restoration to the status of an honorable discharge subject to review by the National Board of Inquiry and approval by the National Executive Committee.

**Section 6(i).** Any member in good standing, against whom no charges exist, must, upon written application, be given an honorable discharge, to be signed by the National Commander, and attested to by the National Adjutant. A member so discharged, may be readmitted in the same manner as a new member, in any Post of the Organization, or become a Member-at-Large.

### 3. Proposed change:

**Section 2.** Eligibility to Active Membership. Honorable service with any of the armed forces eight Uniformed Services of the United States of America (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Public Health Service) ~~in any of its wars, campaigns, conflicts or expeditions, shall embrace service including, but not limited to, that for which medals have been awarded or in the field in a foreign country in action in which there were killed or wounded on the side of the United States troops participating.~~ shall constitute eligibility for membership in the Jewish War Veterans of the United States. Lack of service in any conflict shall not disqualify any applicant who meets the basic criterion of honorable service. Further, ~~the National Commander, by proclamation, upon advice and consent of the Chairman of the National Executive~~

~~Committee and the National Commander and the National Executive Director, may declare any circumstances of arms, and any person therein, eligible for active membership. subject to other membership criteria.~~

**Section 2(a):** This section contains three and one-half pages of dates and campaigns from 1865 – 2001 and should be deleted in its entirety from this article but transcribed on a suitable metal or glass plate and displayed in a suitable area in the National Museum of American Jewish Military History where it can be seen by the public.

**Section 4. Delete in its entirety. Associate Membership.** Any person who is a citizen of the United States of America, and of the Jewish faith, ~~not otherwise eligible to Active Membership, shall be eligible for Associate Membership and be entitled to all the rights and privileges of active members, except the right to act as a delegate of any echelon, provided he or she qualifies as follows:~~

a) ~~Who, during the time of any war, campaign or conflict in which the United States of America was an active participant, was a member of the armed forces of any country allied to the United~~

~~States of America in that war, campaign or conflict, provided however, that no person, discharged or released under conditions other than honorable from any such service shall be eligible to membership; (Amended 8/97)~~

In this period of decreasing membership, whether due to natural attrition or fewer Jewish personnel in the in the Uniformed Services, there is no reason to relegate a serviceman or woman who has not been in combat to second-class status by allowing them only “associate” membership. Any Jew who has worn the uniform of one of the eight Uniformed Services and has been honorably discharged or retired should be regular member of the Jewish War Veterans.

**Section 6(g).** Any dishonorably discharged member, after a lapse of seven years, upon good cause being shown, may apply to National Headquarters for restoration to the status of an honorable discharge subject to review by the National Board of Inquiry and approval by the National ~~Executive Committee~~ Commander.

**Section 6(i).Delete in its entirety.** ~~Any member in good standing, against whom no charges exist, must, upon written application, be given an honorable discharge, to be signed by the National Commander, and attested to by the National Adjutant. A member so discharged, may be readmitted in the same manner as a new member, in any Post of the Organization, or become a Member at Large.~~ This section makes no sense. For what reason would a member in good standing need an “honorable discharge” from anyone in the organization. Further, readmission is already covered in **Section 6(f)**.

**5. Rationale:**

**6. Impact to Constitution:**

**7. Impact to the By-Laws:**

## **#2 – 2021**

1. **By-Laws Article II: Per Capita Tax, Dues, and Indebtedness, Section 5, Procedures Of the JWV National Finance Board: sub-paragraph 5. Methods Of Allocating To JWV-National Based On Donations To Outside Organizations: Dollar for Dollar**
2. *Submitted by Edward Sands, Judge Advocate, Dr. Harvey J. Bloom, Post 256, Dept. of TALO*
3. **As it appears now:**

### **Procedures Of The JWV National Finance Board:**

In order to preserve the fiscal integrity of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America and to provide proper planning and continuity of the JWV programs and operating budget, the following procedures have been established by the JWV.

1. All monies raised through the National Finance Board are used EXCLUSIVELY for the JWV-USA Memorial Building Fund and its operations and such other vital projects as may be approved by the National Executive Committee.
2. Contributions by echelons/units to National JWV will be made based on their donations made to any outside organization, regardless of the method used in raising those funds. In other words, if your unit does not contribute monies outside JWV, you have no requirement for a watchdog obligation to JWV National.
3. In order to retain your echelon's voting and membership privileges it is imperative that you file a report. You are to submit a report to the National Finance Board by May 1st of each year.
4. Exempted from contributions to the National Organization will be:
  - a) Donations made to Veterans Administration Medical Centers (VAMC), or State Soldiers' Homes;
  - b) Donations made to the JWV-USA National Memorial, Inc.;
  - c) Donations made to the JWV-USA National Memorial Building Funds;
  - d) Donations made to any JWV or JWVA higher echelon;
  - e) Monies spent for legitimate operations of echelons/units;
  - f) Any other special project approved by the NEC from time to time.

Any other exemption, on a case-by-case basis, must be authorized by the National Finance Board and approved by the National Commander.

5. **Methods Of Allocating Contributions To JWV-National Based On Donations To Outside Organizations: Dollar for Dollar**

It is important to emphasize that the contributions required to be made by your unit to the National Organization are not based on how much money you raise, but on how you spend your money. Donations to the Building Fund will be applied against your contribution to the JWV.

All echelons of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America are required to continue to submit an application for fund raising projects prior to embarking on such fund-

raising project as previously enunciated by the National Executive Committee. Applications and instructions can be obtained from National Headquarters.

#### 4. Proposed Change:

Procedures ~~Of~~ of the JWV National Finance Board:

In order to preserve the fiscal integrity of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America and to provide proper planning and continuity of the JWV programs and operating budget, the following procedures have been established by the JWV.

1. All monies raised through the National Finance Board are used EXCLUSIVELY for the JWV-USA Memorial Building Fund and its operations and such other vital projects as may be approved by the National Executive Committee.
2. Contributions by echelons/units to National JWV will be made based on their donations made to any outside organization, regardless of the method used in raising those funds. In other words, if your unit does not contribute monies outside JWV, you have no requirement for a watchdog obligation to JWV National.
3. In order to retain your echelon's voting and membership privileges it is imperative that you file a report. You are to submit a report to the National Finance Board by May 1st of each year.
4. Exempted from contributions to the National Organization will be:
  - a) Donations made to Veterans Administration Medical Centers (VAMC), or State Soldiers' Homes;
  - b) Donations made to the JWV-USA National Memorial, Inc.;
  - c) Donations made to the JWV-USA National Memorial Building Funds;
  - d) Donations made to any JWV or JWVA higher echelon;
  - e) Monies spent for legitimate operations of echelons/units;
  - f) Any other special project approved by the NEC from time to time.

Any other exemption, on a case-by-case basis, must be authorized by the National Finance Board and approved by the National Commander.

#### 5. Methods ~~Of~~ of Allocating Contributions To JWV-National Based On Donations To Outside Organizations: Dollar for Dollar

~~It is important to emphasize that the contributions required to be made by your unit to the National Organization are not based on how much money you raise, but on how you spend your money. Donations to the Building Fund will be applied against your contribution to the JWV.~~

~~All echelons of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America are required to continue to submit an application for fund raising projects prior to embarking on such fund~~

~~raising project as previously enunciated by the National Executive Committee. Applications and instructions can be obtained from National Headquarters.~~

#### **5. Rationale for Change:**

Sub-Paragraph 5, second paragraph conflicts with Sub-Paragraph 2. Above. Sub-Paragraph 2. states that if you are not donating to an outside organization then you do not need to make a contribution to J WVUSA.

Point 1) We are in fact a fund-raising organization. It places an undue burden upon the echelon to make such “required to continue to submit an application for fund raising projects prior to embarking on such fund-raising project?”

Point 2) Echelons are required to make a Financial Board Report (Sub-Paragraph 3). If/ When an echelon donates to an outside organization, it will be detailed in that Financial Board report and a “watchdog obligation to JWV National” will be apparent and the echelon should submit the required contribution (dollar-for-dollar) to National JWV.

Point 3) If the echelon reads the “Procedures Of The JWV National Finance Board:” section in its entirety then the paragraphs indicated to be deleted are unnecessary.

**6. Impact to Constitution:** None

**7. Impact to the By-Laws:** As indicated

## **#3 – 2021**

1. **By-Laws – Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 1. National Board of Inquiry.**

2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

3. **As it Appears Now:**

**Section 1. National Board of Inquiry.** There is hereby created a National Board of Inquiry, which shall consist of six (6) members, in good standing each of different Departments; and a Chairman appointed by the National Commander, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter. At the meeting of the National Executive Committee preceding the National Convention, and following the election of the Officers of the National Executive Committee, there shall annually be elected from the voting membership two (2) members who shall each serve a three (3) year term. In the event of a vacancy, such vacancy shall be filled with a member in good standing (Amended 8/17) by election at the next National Executive Committee meeting.

4. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 1. National Board of Inquiry.** There is hereby created a National Board of Inquiry, which shall consist of a chairman appointed by the National Commander, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter. And six (6) members, in good standing each of different Departments; one of which shall be the co-chairman elected by the committee members. ~~and a Chairman appointed by the National Commander, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter.~~ The Chairman shall not exceed two (2) one (1) year terms as Chairman. At the meeting of the National Executive Committee preceding the National Convention and following the election of the Officers of the National Executive Committee, there shall annually be elected from the voting membership two (2) members who shall each serve a three (3) year term. In the event of a vacancy, such vacancy shall be filled with a member in good standing (Amended 8/17) by election at the next National Executive Committee meeting. (Amended ??) The National Judge Advocate shall be an ex-officio member (voice, no vote).

5. **Rationale for the Change:** In order to provide chairmanship experience to other members of the committee and provide members with the opportunity to advance to positions of greater responsibility.

6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None

7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** None

## **#4 – 2021**

1. **By-Laws – Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 2. National Budget Committee.**

2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

3. **As it Appears Now:**

**Section 2. National Budget Committee.** There is hereby established a National Budget Committee, which shall consist of six (6) members appointed by the National Commander, each of whom shall be a member of a different Department; and a Chairman appointed by the National Commander; all of whom shall serve a term contemporaneous with the National Commander. The National Budget Committee and the National Personnel Committee shall meet at the same time and place as the National Executive Committee, and at such other times as a majority of such Committee shall request, or as the Chairman shall call. The National Executive Director and the Chairman of the National Personnel Committee shall be an ex-officio members of the National Budget Committee. (Amended 8/97) (Amended 8/17).

4. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 2. National Budget Committee.** There is hereby established a National Budget Committee, which shall consist of a Chairman, who shall have a (1) vote only in the event of a tie on any matter, appointed by the National Commander, and six (6) members appointed by the National Commander, each member may have only one (1) vote. each of whom shall be a member of a different Department; ~~and a Chairman appointed by the National Commander;~~ all of whom shall serve a term contemporaneous with the National Commander. The Chairman may only serve five (5) consecutive terms. A Vice-Chairman shall be elected by a vote of the members. The National Budget Committee and the National Personnel Committee shall meet at the same time and place as the National Executive Committee, and at such other times as a majority of such Committee shall request, or as the Chairman shall call. The National Executive Director (voice, no vote) and the Chairman of the National Personnel Committee (voice, no vote) shall be an ex-officio members of the National Budget Committee. (Amended 8/97) (Amended 8/17).

**Section 2(a).** The National Budget Committee shall prepare an annual budget and present it for approval to the National Executive Committee.

**Section 2(b). Quorum** The minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Budget Committee shall not be less than three (3). ~~Each member may have only one (1) vote. The Chairman shall have a (1) vote only in the event of a tie on any matter.~~

5. **Rationale for the Change:**

- a. To establish the number of consecutive terms that the Chairman may serve.
- b. To establish a Co-Chairman of this committee.
- c. Clarity: (1) The National Executive Director is an employee of the organization and does not vote as a member of any committee or meeting. Re: Constitution Article V National Convention Section 3. “Every voting member of the National Executive Committee, who



is present at such Convention, except the delegates of a Post, shall be entitled to one vote. No person who is a full-time paid employee of any Echelon of the Organization shall vote at any Convention or meeting of any Echelon of this Organization.” (2) The National Personnel Committee Chairman is an ex-officio member and does not necessarily have a vote to any motion. **Discussion:** is National Personnel Committee Chairman a voting member?

6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 2. National Budget Committee. And 2(b).

## **#5 – 2021**

### **1. By-Laws – Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 3. National Convention Committee**

2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

### **3. As it Appears Now:**

**Section 3. National Convention Committee.** There is hereby established a National Convention Committee, which shall consist of six (6) members, and a Chairman of the National Convention Committee, all of whom shall be appointed by the National Commander. The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie.

**Section 3(a).** The National Commander shall, as soon as practicable after his election, appoint six (6) members in good standing (Amended 8/17) for a one year (1) term of office contemporaneous with the term of the National Commander. No Department shall have more than one (1) member on the National Convention Committee. In addition to the regularly appointed Committee, the National Commander, after the Convention site has been selected by the National Executive Committee, shall appoint an additional member, from the Department in which the Convention is to be held, to serve for that said Convention only. The number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Convention Committee shall be three (3). (Amended 8/97)

**Section 3(b).** The National Executive Director, the Chairman of the National Executive Committee, the National Budget Committee Chairman and the National Personnel Committee Chairman, or their designees, shall be ex-officio members of the National Convention Committee, with voice but no vote.

**Section 3(c).** The National Convention Committee shall, subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee: recommend the time and place of the National Convention; recommend the rates and fees of the National Convention; and recommend the registration fee for delegates.

**Section 3(d).** The National Convention Committee shall recommend arrangements and programs for the National Convention; and the arrangements necessary for the holding of the National Convention. The National Convention Committee may function through subcommittees among which the various activities of the Convention may be divided.

### **4. Proposed Change:**

**Section 3. National Convention Committee.** There is hereby established a National Convention Committee, the National Commander shall, as soon as practicable after his/ her election, which shall consist of appoint a Chairman, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter, and who shall serve no more than five (5) consecutive terms, and six (6) members of the NEC (two (2) Past National Commanders, two (2) Elected NEC Committeemen and two (2) Department Commander(s)), each from a different department, for a one (1) year (1) term of office contemporaneous with the term of the National Commander. No Department shall have more than one (1) member. A Vice-Chairman shall be elected by a vote of the

members. ~~The National Executive Director, the Chairman of the National Executive Committee Chairman, the National Judge Advocate, the National Budget Committee Chairman and the National Personnel Committee Chairman, or their designees, shall be ex-officio members of the National Convention Committee with (voice, but no vote). and a Chairman of the National Convention Committee, all of whom shall be appointed by the National Commander. The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie.~~

**Section 3(a). Additional Committee Member.** ~~The National Commander shall, as soon as practicable after his election, appoint six (6) members in good standing (Amended 8/17) for a one year (1) term of office contemporaneous with the term of the National Commander. No Department shall have more than one (1) member on the National Convention Committee. In addition to the regularly appointed Committee, the National Commander, after the Convention site has been selected by the National Executive Committee, shall appoint an additional member, from the Department in which the Convention is to be held, to serve for that said Convention only. The number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Convention Committee shall be three (3). (Amended 8/97)~~

**Section 3(b). Quorum** ~~The number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Convention Committee shall be three (3). (Amended 8/97) The National Executive Director, the Chairman of the National Executive Committee, the National Budget Committee Chairman and the National Personnel Committee Chairman, or their designees, shall be ex-officio members of the National Convention Committee, with voice but no vote.~~

**Section 3(eb).** The National Convention Committee shall, subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee: recommend the time and place of the National Convention; recommend the rates and fees of the National Convention; and recommend the registration fee for delegates.

**Section 3(dc).** The National Convention Committee shall recommend arrangements and programs for the National Convention; and the arrangements necessary for the holding of the National Convention. The National Convention Committee may function through subcommittees among which the various activities of the Convention may be divided.

**Section 3(d). Convention Agenda.** The National Convention Committee will work closely with the National Operations Staff to ensure the agenda of committee meetings locations (rooms) and schedule (times) and events are in the appropriate order to enhance the conduct of the convention and be made to ensure maximum participation of the attendees.

**5. Rationale for the Change:**

- a. Section 3 conforms to other such paragraph denoting appointment and composition of committee.
- b. Adds Chairman term limitation.
- c. Section 3(d). ensures a complete and comprehensive agenda.
- d. **Discussion:** This section does not authorize the committee to form sub-committees. However, there is a sub-committee, National Convention Committee-Rules. I cannot find anywhere the purpose, responsibilities, or authority for this committee. Delete the "Rules" committee

6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** as indicated

## **#6 – 2021**

1. **By-Laws – Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 4 National Court**
2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

### 3. **As it Appears Now:**

**Section 4. National Court.** There is hereby created a National Court, which shall consist of six (6) members in good standing and shall each be of different Departments; and a President, with or without a Vice-President, appointed by the National Commander, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie. At the meeting of the National Executive Committee preceding the National Convention, and following the election of the Officers of the National Executive Committee, there shall annually be elected from the general membership two (2) members who shall each serve a three (3) year term. While they shall be voting members when elected, it is not necessary that they continue to be members of the National Executive Committee to serve on the Court. In the event of a vacancy, such vacancy shall be filled with a member in good standing, by election, at the next National Executive Committee meeting. (Amended 8/17).

**Section 4(a).** The National Court shall consider all charges and specifications against any Echelon of

this Organization, or against a person holding the rank of Post Commander, or higher, or against a Subsidiary Organization or as may be presented by the National Board of Inquiry. It shall also consider appeals brought by members of Echelons convicted by Courts ordered by a Post, District or County Council, or Department.

### 4. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 4. National Court.** There is hereby created a National Court, which shall consist of a President, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie, with or without a Vice-President, and six (6) members in good standing and shall each be of from a different Departments; and a President, with or without a Vice-President, appointed by the National Commander, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie. The National Judge Advocate shall be ex-officio member (voice, no vote).

**Section 4(a). Authority:** The National Court shall consider all charges and specifications against any Echelon echelon of this Organization, or against a person holding the rank of Post Commander, or higher, or against a Subsidiary Organization or as may be presented by the National Board of Inquiry. It shall also consider appeals brought by members of Echelons eschelons convicted by Courts ordered by a Post, District or County Council, or Department.

**Section 4 (b). Members:** At the meeting of the National Executive Committee preceding the National Convention and following the election of the Officers of the National Executive Committee, there shall annually be elected from the general membership two (2) members who shall each serve a three (3) year term. While they shall be voting members when elected, it is not necessary that they continue to be members of the National Executive Committee to serve on the Court.

**Section 4(c). Vacancy:** In the event of a vacancy, such vacancy shall be filled with a member in good standing, by election, at the next National Executive Committee meeting. (Amended 8/17)

**5. Rationale for the Change:**

- a. Section 4 conforms to other such paragraph denoting appointment and composition of committee.
- b. Adds Chairman term limitation.
- c. Adds NJA as member

**6. Impacts to Constitution:** None

**7. Impacts to the By-Laws:** As indicated

## **#7 – 2021**

1. **By-Laws – Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 5 National Finance Board**
2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

### 3. **As it Appears Now:**

**Section 5 National Finance Board.** There is hereby created a National Finance Board consisting of eight

(8) members and a Chairman. The National Commander each year shall appoint four (4) members to a term of two (2) years with the provision that no Department shall have more than one (1) member on the board. Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the National Commander for the balance of the term. All terms shall coincide with the National Convention. In addition to the above membership the National Commander will appoint a Chairman whose term shall be contemporaneous with the National Commander. The National Commander, the National Budget Chairman and the National Judge Advocate shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board, without vote.

**Section 5(a).** As delegated, the National Finance Board shall supervise the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the National Organization as they pertain to the various echelons, their annual accounting, raising, depositing and spending of funds; and alienation of other assets.

**Section 5(b).** The minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Finance Board shall not be less than four (4). Each member may have only one (1) vote. The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie

### 4. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 5 National Finance Board.** There is hereby created a National Finance Board consisting of a Chairman, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie, and eight (8) members ~~and a Chairman~~. The National Commander each year shall appoint a Chairman, whose term shall be contemporaneous with the National Commander, and four (4) members to a term of two (2) years with the provision that no Department shall have more than one (1) member on the board. The National Commander, the National Budget Committee Chairman and the National Judge Advocate shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board (voice, no vote).

**Section 5(a). Authority:** As delegated, the National Finance Board shall supervise the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the National Organization as they pertain to the various echelons, their annual accounting, raising, depositing, and spending of funds; and alienation of other assets.

**Section 5(b). Quorum:** The minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Finance Board shall not be less than four (4). Each member may have only one (1) vote. ~~The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie~~

**Section 5(c). Vacancy:** Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the National Commander for the balance of the term. All terms shall coincide with the National Convention. ~~In addition to the above membership the National Commander will appoint a Chairman whose term shall be contemporaneous with the National Commander. The National Commander, the National Budget Chairman and the National Judge Advocate shall serve as ex-officio members of the Board, without vote.~~

5. **Rationale for the Change:**

- a. Section 5 conforms to other such paragraph denoting appointment and composition of committee.
- b. Adds Chairman term limitation.

6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None

7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** As indicated



## **#8 – 2021**

1. **By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 6. National Housing Commission.**
2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*
3. **As it Appears Now:**

**Section 6. National Housing Commission.** There is hereby established a Jewish War Veterans National Housing Commission consisting of eight (8) members and a Chairman. The National Commander each year shall appoint four (4) members to a term of two (2) years with the provision that no more than two

(2) of these members may come from any one Department. Any vacancy shall be filled by appointment of the National Commander for the balance of the term. All terms shall coincide with the National Convention. In addition to the above membership, the National Commander will appoint a Chairman whose term shall be contemporaneous with the National Commander. The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter. The National Commander, the National Executive Director, the National Budget Chairman and the National Judge Advocate shall serve as ex-officio members of the Commission, with both voice and vote.

**Section 6(a).** The National Housing Commission shall have an annual certified independent audit and shall make an annual report to the National Convention. The National Housing Commission shall report the execution of any contract to the National Executive Committee. The National Housing Commission shall not financially obligate the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America beyond such financial authorization as may have been approved by the National Executive Committee, or as may be contained in the National Budget, provided, however, that, once made, the National Budget Committee shall not change any such allocation, during the budget year, without prior approval of the National Executive Committee.

**Section 6(b).** The JWV National Housing Commission is hereby empowered to entertain contracts for the construction, ownership, sponsorship, maintenance, or management of housing, nursing home, ex- tended care facilities, or other like type projects as permitted by Federal, State or Local law or program. In this regard, all Echelons and/or Corporations or other entities are, at all times, subject and subordinate to the National Organization; and, therefore, copies of proposed and actual certificates of incorporation, Bylaws, applications, plans, contracts, revisions or amendments thereto relating in any way to a project, must be submitted to the Housing Commission for their review, advice and approval. All proposed projects and the actions of the National Housing Commission are to be reported to the National Executive Committee. All contracts entered into by the National Housing Commission shall be reviewed by the National Judge Advocate prior to execution. All contracts shall be executed only by the National Commander. The Commission is authorized to create Corporations to implement and carry out any projects approved by the National Executive Committee, subject to approval by the National Judge Advocate as provided for under the provisions of the National Bylaws.

4. **Proposed Change:** Delete entire Section 6. National Housing Commission

5. **Rationale for the Change:** This commission no longer exists. I was informed that this commission deletion was made (voted on) more than a decade ago. However, the deletion in the By-Laws never happened.
6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:**
  - a. By-Laws Article III National Executive Committee, Section 4. Delete reference to National Housing Commission
  - b. By-Laws Article XIII Rules of Incorporation, Section 5. Delete reference to National Housing Commission

## **#9 – 2021**

### **1. By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 7 National Personnel Committee**

2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

### **3. As it Appears Now:**

**Section 7. National Personnel Committee.** There is hereby established a National Personnel Committee, which shall consist of six (6) members appointed by the National Commander, each of whom shall be a member of a different Department; and a Chairman appointed by the National Commander; all of whom shall serve a term contemporaneous with the National Commander. The National Personnel Committee and the National Budget Committee shall meet at the same time and place as the National Executive Committee, and at such other times as a majority of such Committee shall request, or as the Chairman shall call. The National Executive Director and the Chairman of the National Budget Committee shall be an ex-officio member of the National Personnel Committee. (Amended 8/97)(Amended 8/17)

**Section 7(a).** The National Personnel Committee shall provide for, and appoint or employ, such Officers and employees, as it may deem necessary, for the proper administration of the affairs of this Organization, and shall prescribe their duties and emoluments.

**Section 7(b).** The National Personnel Committee shall keep and update a record of all rules and regulations relating to personnel practices, conditions of employment, and job descriptions on all positions established.

**Section 7(c).** The minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum shall not be less than three (3). Each member may have only one vote. The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie vote on any matter.

**Section 7(d).** The employment or appointment of the National Executive Director shall be subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee. No employee occupying the position of National Executive Director shall be discharged, or his or her employment terminated, except after a hearing before a Board of three (3) members, especially appointed for that purpose by the National Commander. A majority vote of such Board shall be controlling. Such employees shall be given at least fifteen (15) days written notice of the time and place of hearing, personally or by certified mail, by the National Adjutant. His or her failure to attend or be represented at such hearing shall in no way prevent the hearing from proceeding and a decision made.

### **4. Proposed Change:**

**Section 7. National Personnel Committee.** There is hereby established a National Personnel Committee, which shall consist of a Chairman, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter, and who shall serve no more than five (5) consecutive terms, and six (6) members appointed by the National Commander, each of whom shall be a member of a different Department; ~~and a Chairman appointed by the National~~

~~Commander; all of whom shall serve a term contemporaneous with the National Commander. The National Executive Director and the National Budget Committee Chairman shall be an ex-officio members (voice, no vote) of the National Personnel Committee. (Amended 8/97) (Amended 8/17).~~

**Section 7(a). Authority.** The National Personnel Committee shall keep and update a record of all rules and regulations relating to personnel practices, conditions of employment, and job descriptions on all positions established, and shall prescribe their duties/ titles and emoluments. ~~The National Personnel Committee shall provide for, and appoint or employ, such Officers and employees, as it may deem necessary, for the proper administration of the affairs of this Organization and~~

**Section 7(b). Meetings.** The National Personnel Committee and the National Budget Committee shall meet at the same time and place as the National Executive Committee, and at such other times as the Chairman shall call, or as a majority of such Committee shall request, ~~or. The National Executive Director and the Chairman of the National Budget Committee shall be an ex-officio member of the National Personnel Committee.~~ (Amended 8/97)(Amended 8/17)

**Section 7(c). Quorum.** The minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum shall not be less than three (3). Each member may have only one vote. ~~The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie vote on any matter.~~

**Section 7(d). National Executive Director:** The employment or appointment of the National Executive Director shall be subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee. No employee occupying the position of National Executive Director shall be discharged, or his or her employment terminated, except after a hearing before a Board of three (3) members, especially appointed for that purpose by the National Commander. A majority vote of such Board shall be controlling. Such employees shall be given at least fifteen (15) days written notice of the time and place of hearing, personally or by certified mail, by the National Adjutant. His or her failure to attend or be represented at such hearing shall in no way prevent the hearing from proceeding and a decision made.

5. **Rationale for the Change:** Removes authority to hire and discharge employees which was in conflict with the NED's authority for same.
6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:**
  - a. Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 2. National Budget Committee. None
  - b. Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 3. National Convention Committee, Section 3(b). None.
  - c. Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 7. National Personnel Committee, Section 3(b). As indicated.
  - d. Article VI National Officers, Section 6. National Executive Director. "...empowered to employ and discharge personnel (subject to the provisions of the National Constitution and Bylaws and Personnel codes or agreements);...". **Conflicts with** Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 7 National Personnel Committee, Sub-Section 7(b) "The National Personnel Committee shall provide for, and appoint or employ, such

Officers and employees, as it may deem necessary, for the proper administration of the affairs of this Organization, and shall prescribe their duties and emoluments.”

## **#10 – 2021**

### 1. **By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 8 National Policy Committee**

2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

### 3. **As it Appears Now:**

**Section 8. National Policy Committee.** There is hereby established a National Policy Committee, chaired by the National Commander, which shall consist of: the National Executive Director; the Chairman of the National Executive Committee; the National Judge Advocate; the National Editor; the Immediate Past National Commander; the members elected from Departments as follows: Departments with between zero (0) and seven hundred forty nine (749) members - one (1) representative; Departments with seven hundred fifty (750) or more members - two (2) representatives. The National Judge Advocate, the National Executive Director, and the National Editor shall be members of the National Policy Committee with voice, but without vote. Elected National Policy Committeemen shall serve from the time of the Department elections until their successors are chosen. For the purpose of this section, membership is defined as the numerical strength of the Department thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the next ensuing National Convention, as recorded in the books and records at National Headquarters. The elected National Policy Committeemen must be voting members of the

National Executive Committee during their term of service. (Amended 8/17)

**Section 8(a).** The National Policy Committee shall have the power and duty to consider all matters involving policy of the Organization. The National Policy Committee shall have the authority to publish its decision on all matters of policy, except where the same materially changes existing organizational policy on any matter; and in such cases, the same shall first be referred to the National Executive Committee or National Convention for approval.

**Section 8(b).** The minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Policy Committee shall be not less than seven (7). Each member may have only one (1) vote. The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter.

**Section 8(c).** The National Policy Committee may meet between sessions of the National Executive Committee, and at such other times as the National Commander, as the National Policy Committee Chairman, may determine.

### 4. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 8. National Policy Committee.** There is hereby established a National Policy Committee, chaired by the National Vice-Commander (who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter), which shall consist of: the National Executive Committee Chairman; the Immediate Past National Commander; the National Executive Director (voice, no vote); ~~the Chairman of the National Executive Committee Chairman~~; the National Judge Advocate (voice, no vote); the National Editor (voice, no vote); ~~the Immediate Past National Commander~~; and the members elected from Departments as follows: Departments with

between zero (0) and seven hundred forty nine (749) members - one (1) representative; Departments with seven hundred fifty (750) or more members - two (2) representatives. ~~The National Judge Advocate, the National Executive Director, and the National Editor shall be members of the National Policy Committee with voice, but without vote. The elected National Policy Committeemen must be voting members of the National Executive Committee during their term of service. (Amended 8/17).~~ Elected National Policy Committeemen shall serve from the time of the Department elections until their successors are chosen. For this section, membership is defined as the numerical strength of the Department thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of the next ensuing National Convention, as recorded in the ~~books and records~~ at National Headquarters. ~~The elected National Policy Committeemen must be voting members of the National Executive Committee during their term of service. (Amended 8/17)~~

**Section 8(a). Powers:** The National Policy Committee shall have the power and duty to consider all matters involving policy of the Organization. The Policy Committee shall propose policy of three (3) categories.

**Section 8(a) 1) Policy:** which shall address issues positions of the organization, i.e., we will support the State of Israel; we condemn Anti-Semitism; we condemn Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS); etc. These shall be first referred to the NEC or National Convention for approval. Once approved they shall be published in the Manual of Ceremonies and posted to the National Website.

**Section 8(a) 2) Resolutions:** which shall address issues of Policy for external to the organization publication (position statements), i.e., Anti-Semitism; Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS); Veterans Benefits, etc. and compose those position statements. If these Resolutions are not considered time sensitive, they shall be referred to the NEC or National Convention. If a resolution is considered time sensitive and requires an immediate response (publication), the National Commander, National Executive Committee Chairman, and Immediate Past National Commander, with a 2/3 vote, may (after review by the NJA NED, and National Editor) be issued as a public policy position statement.

**Section 8(a) 3) Protocol:** which addresses issues of welcome, courtesies, and expectations when Posts and Departments are visited by National Officers and Staff and/ or distinguished visitors, i.e., Legislators (Local, State, and National). These Protocol are to be published in the Manual of Ceremonies.

**Section 8(b). Authority:** The National Policy Committee shall have the authority to publish its decision on all matters of policy, except where the same materially changes existing organizational policy on any matter; ~~and in such cases, the same shall first be referred to the National Executive Committee or National Convention for approval.~~

**Section 8(c). Quorum:** The minimum number of members required to constitute a quorum of the National Policy Committee shall be not less than twelve (12) ~~seven (7)~~. Each member may have only one (1) vote. ~~The Chairman shall have a vote only in the event of a tie on any matter.~~

**Section 8(d). Meetings:** The National Policy Committee may shall meet between sessions of the National Executive Committee, and at such other times as the National Commander, as the

National Policy Committee Chairman, may determine.

5. **Rationale for the Change:** Editing to provide clarity and readability.

**Discussion:** Section 8(a). is incomplete and ambiguous! There are three types of “Policy” 1) those that pertain to the organization (published in the MOC and posted to the Nat. website), example: the JWV Policy on the Shabbat and Holy Days, Cybersecurity (no personal or employer email addresses will be used to conduct JWV business, etc.), 2) JWV Resolutions (published in news services, Senate, etc.) statements of the organization’ position of a National issue, and 3) Protocol. None of these issues are differentiated in the existing C&B.

**Discussion:** It does not state here that a sub-committee may be formed. There are two “Protocol” (By-Laws Article XII – in Manual of Ceremonies) and “Resolutions” (not addressed in the C&B at all).

**Discussion:** The committee should routinely meet to determine organization policy and put it in final form for presentation to the NEC and National Convention i.e., a Cybersecurity policy (information on websites and Facebook and requirements for Post/ Department email accounts, etc.).

6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None  
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** as indicated.



## **#11 – 2021**

### **1. By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 9**

2. *Submitted by: DC – IL & National Marketing Committee Chairman, Howard Goldstein.*

### **3. As it Appears Now:**

**Section 9.** There shall be established a National Marketing and Publicity Committee, which shall consist of six (6) members and a chairman appointed by the National Commander, each from a different Department. (Amended 8/19)

### **4. Proposed Change:**

**Section 9. National Marketing Committee.** ~~The~~ There shall be established a National Marketing ~~and Publicity~~ Committee, which shall consist of a chairman who may serve no more than five (5) consecutive terms and shall have a vote only in the event of a tie, and six (6) members in good standing ~~and a chairman~~ appointed by the National Commander, each from a different Department. A Co-Chairman shall be vote on from the members. (Amended 8/19)

**Section 9(a).** Purpose: The purpose/ role of the Marketing committee is to identify Jewish Veterans, as members, and non-Veterans, as Patron Status participants of our organization who wish to support the Jewish War Veterans; find out what will motivate them to join and/ or donate to JWV; inform them as to what is available; educating them in regard to membership/ donations and doing this in a fiscally responsible manner.

This is done using market research, target marketing and marketing communications. Marketing communications consists of creating a brand, assuring proper usage of the brand is maintained and creating awareness of Jewish War Veterans through advertising (print and digital), public relations, publicity, and promotion.

The Marketing Committee is to provide support to the echelons of the JWV working in conjunction with the Membership Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and other committees to help them meet their goals.

**Section 9(b) Quorum.** In order to reach agreement on the direction of the committee, the use of outside vendors and the approval of the work completed by outside vendors 80% of the members must be in agreement.

5. **Rationale for the Change:** Currently Jewish War Veterans is not a well-known entity. The demographic of prospective members is dynamic and ever changing. This requires us to identify the various groups from which members may be found, determine their wants, and needs and determine the best way to reach them with our message. JWV needs to continuously work to ensure our name is recognized, the work we do for veterans is acknowledged and to have a consistent “look and feel” to capitalize on our strengths throughout the organization. There is a need to consistently get input from members, donors, and legislators as well as prospective

members and donors through ongoing research. This is best done through a centralized marketing function.

6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** None

## **#12 - 2021**

1. **Bylaw Article: IV Section: 9**
2. Submitted by Sheldon Goldberg, Ph.D., NEC, Department of Maryland
3. **As it appears now:** Does not appear in either the Constitution or Bylaws.
4. **Proposed Change:** Article IV, Section 9. National Rules Committee.

(a) A National Rules Committee shall be established consisting of five (5) members, of which only one (1) shall be a Past National Commander.

(b) The National Rules Committee shall establish rules regarding the conduct of committee meetings, to include the taking of minutes, either by hand or by recording at all meetings, committee voting, and the establishment of quorums for committees where not otherwise stated in these Bylaws. Furthermore, it shall decide which committees are empowered to make decisions not requiring a vote of the general membership and which may only make recommendations to be voted upon by the membership as a whole.

**5. Rationale:** With the exception of the committees named in these Bylaws, there are no rules that govern the conduct of other appointed or *ad hoc* committees that might from time to time be established. Past experience has shown that some committees leave no record of their proceedings and decisions made in committee, such as those regarding amendments to the Constitution or Bylaws, are never brought before the Convention for a vote. Minutes are important because they are the only surviving record of what was said and done at the meeting and thus, a rules committee is needed to ensure that the proceedings of the meetings are recorded and maintained/archived.

6. **Impacts to Constitution:**
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:**

## **#13 – 2021**

### **1. By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 10. Nomination Committee**

2. *Submitted by: PNC Dr. Barry Schneider, Dept. of TALO*

3. **As it Appears Now:** It does not currently exist.

### **4. Proposed Amendment:**

**Section 10. Nominations Committee.** There shall be established a Nominations Committee. This committee shall be established immediately upon the adjournment of the National Convention. The Chairman shall be the Immediate Past National Commander, who shall have a vote only in the event of a tie. The Chairman shall select the members of this committee with the advice and counsel of the NC as the chairman deems necessary. The committee members shall be six (6) members of the National Executive Committee, they shall be one (1) Past National Commander who had served in that position within the past ten (10) years, three (3) Elected National Executive Committeemen, two (2) Department Commanders, and one Post Commander from a Post not assigned to any given department. Each shall have but one (1) vote. The National Judge Advocate shall be an Ex-officio (voice, no vote) member of this committee.

**Section 10(a). Chairman.** The Chairman shall present the committee list of National Officer nominees to the National Adjutant sixty (60) days prior to the NEC meeting. The National Adjutant shall verify the eligibility of each nominee to ensure they meet the criteria as established in By-Laws Article V Section 1(b). The Chairman shall present the National Commander nominee(s) at the NEC at which time the nominees shall be required to present their vision for their term of office. Members, seeking nomination other than those presented by the nominations committee seeking nomination must comply with the requirements of By-Laws Article V Section 1(b). And meet the timelines as prescribed above. They too shall be required to present their vision for their term of office.

**Section 10(b). Adjutant (Secretary).** An Adjutant shall be selected from the members to record all meetings, proceeding of such meetings, and records. These records shall be considered confidential and shall only be review at the request of a Board of Inquiry.

**Section 10(c). Membership Limitation.** No member of this committee may be a nominee for any elected office of the National Organization during their tenure on this committee. The members will serve no more than three (3) consecutive 1-year terms. No member of this committee shall discuss the workings of this committee with any JWV member or Officer prior to the presentation of the nominee's list to the National Commander.

**Section 10(d). Meetings.** The Chairman will schedule (virtual) meetings as he/she considers necessary to accomplish the goals of this committee.

5. **Rationale for the Change** provides transparency to the general membership of the selection process of elected officers.
6. **Impacts to Constitution:** None
7. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** As indicated

## **#14 – 2021**

### **1. By-Laws Article V National Convention**

2. *Submitted by: DC – IL & National Marketing Committee Chairman, Howard Goldstein.*

### **3. As it Appears Now:**

4. **Section 1.** The election of the National Commander shall take place at the National Convention.

**Section 1(a).** To be a candidate for National Commander, one must be an active member of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA in good standing, for the current year and for the previous three years prior to the National Convention, where the name is submitted.  
Passed 08/16

**Section 1(b).** To be presented as a candidate for National Commander at the National Convention, the proposed candidate must be endorsed by at least 3 posts from each of 3 different Departments and notice thereof given to the National Headquarters at least 60 (Passed 08/05/2015) days prior to the National Convention. Passed 08/09/11

**Section 1(c).** Any member considering a candidacy for National Commander must provide his/her DD- 214 or equivalent to National Headquarters no later than 60 days prior to the National Convention.  
Passed 08/05/2015.

**Section 2.** At each National Convention, there shall be elected a National Commander. The National Commander shall serve a term commencing with the adjournment of the National Convention, and ending with the adjournment of the next National Convention.

**Section 2(a).** When a vacancy occurs in the office of National Commander, it shall be filled by election by the National Executive Committee; the Chairman of the National Executive Committee will act as National Commander until such election; the election to be held at the next National Executive Committee meeting or within sixty (60) days, whichever occurs first. No person elected at a National Convention shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself to the office of National Commander except at a time when the United States of America is at war.

**Section 3.** The National Convention, upon the recommendation of the National Executive Committee, may award to any person, for special service in behalf of this Organization, or otherwise deemed worthy of special recognition, “the meritorious service award and medal”, otherwise known as the “Gold Medal of Merit.” In making its recommendation to the National Convention, for any such award, the National Executive Committee must declare the exceptional services to the Organization and/or the nation which, in its judgment, warrants such award.

**Section 4.** Majority Vote. At the National Convention, and in elections in every Echelon

of this Organization, a majority vote of the members present and voting shall be necessary in any matter properly presented for vote or for election to any office. If there is no election on the first ballot, the name of the member receiving the least number of votes shall be dropped and a new ballot taken, and so on, in successive ballots, until an election is had.

**Section 5. Voting.** Every member of the National Convention, or any member of this Organization, attending any convention or meeting of any Echelon of this Organization, who is present and entitled to vote at such convention or meeting, shall exercise the right of franchise, freely and voluntarily, as his or her conscience shall dictate, without being bound by any mandate or Echelon or unit rule from any Echelon of this Organization. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit any Echelon from expressing a preference in any matter or candidacy.

5. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 1.** The election of the National Commander and the National Vice-Commander shall take place at the National Convention.

**Section 1(a). Nominee(s):** To be a candidate for National Commander, or National Vice-Commander one must be an active member of the ~~Jewish War Veterans of the USA~~ JWVUSA in good standing, for the current year and for the previous three (3) years prior to the National Convention, where the name is submitted. Passed 08/16

**Section 1(b). Endorsement:** To be presented as a candidate for National Commander at the National Convention, the proposed candidate must be endorsed by at least three (3) posts from each of three (3) different Departments and notice thereof given to the National Headquarters at least 60 (Passed 08/05/2015) days prior to the National Convention. Passed 08/09/11

**Section 1(c). Proof of Eligibility:** Any member considering a candidacy for National Commander or National Vice-Commander must provide his/her ~~DD-214 or equivalent~~ proof of service to National Headquarters no later than 60 days prior to the National Convention.

Passed 08/05/2015.

**Section 2. Term:** At each National Convention, there shall be elected a National Commander and National Vice-Commander. ~~The National Commander~~ Each shall serve a term commencing with the adjournment of the National Convention, and ending with the adjournment of the next National Convention.

**Section 2(a). Vacancy:** When a vacancy occurs in the office of National Commander, it shall be filled by the National Vice-Commander. When a vacancy occurs in the office of the National Vice-Commander it shall be filled by the election by the National Executive Committee; the Chairman of the National Executive Committee will act as National Vice-Commander until such election; the election to be held at the next National

Executive Committee meeting or within sixty (60) days, whichever occurs first. No person elected at a National Convention shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself to the office of National Commander except at a time when the United States of America is at war.

**Section 3. Awards:** The National Convention, upon the recommendation of the National Executive Committee, may award to any person, for special service in behalf of this Organization, or otherwise deemed worthy of special recognition, “the meritorious service award and medal”, otherwise known as the “Gold Medal of Merit.” In making its recommendation to the National Convention, for any such award, the National Executive Committee must declare the exceptional services to the Organization and/or the nation which, in its judgment, warrants such award.

**Section 4. Majority Vote.** At the National Convention, and in elections in every Echelon of this Organization, a majority vote of the members present, and voting shall be necessary in any matter properly presented for vote or for election to any office. If there is no election on the first ballot, the name of the member receiving the least number of votes shall be dropped and a new ballot taken, and so on, in successive ballots, until an election is had.

**Section 5. Voting.** Every member of the National Convention, or any member of this Organization, attending any convention or meeting of any Echelon of this Organization, who is present and entitled to vote at such convention or meeting, shall exercise the right of franchise, freely and voluntarily, as his or her conscience shall dictate, without being bound by any mandate or Echelon or unit rule from any Echelon of this Organization. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit any Echelon from expressing a preference in any matter or candidacy.

6. **Rationale for the Change:** Adds Vice-Commander
7. **Impacts to Constitution:** None
8. **Impacts to the By-Laws:** None



## #15 - 2021

1. **By-Laws Article VI National Officers, Section 8. National Judge Advocate**
2. *Submitted by: PC-P749 & NEC Scott P. Stevens, Dept. of TALO*

### 3. **As it Appears Now:**

**Section 8. National Judge Advocate.** The National Judge Advocate shall advise the National Officers and the National Executive Committee on all legal matters including the construction and interpretation of the National Constitution and Bylaws, all contract approvals, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. He or she shall be an attorney of record duly admitted to the practice of law. The National Judge Advocate shall not render opinions to individual members or lower Echelons except by, and through, members of the National Executive Committee. Opinions rendered by Judge Advocates of lower Echelons shall be subject to review of the National Judge Advocate, upon presentation to him or her through a member of the National Executive Committee, but only after review and attempted resolution by the Judge Advocates of all lower Echelons. It shall be the duty of the National Judge Advocate to approve and certify the National Constitution and Bylaws or any amendments thereto of all Echelons and of any Subsidiary Organization. The decision of the National Judge Advocate on questions concerning construction and interpretation of the National Constitution and Bylaws as referred to him or her by a Post, County or Department, shall be final, provided, however, that his or her decision may be overruled by the National Convention, or by a majority vote of the members of the National Executive Committee present and voting at any regular or special meeting.

### 4. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 8. National Judge Advocate (NJA)** <sup>(1)</sup>. The National Judge Advocate NJA shall advise the National Officers and the National Executive Committee (NEC) on all legal matters including the construction and interpretation of the ~~National Constitution and Bylaws~~ National Constitution & By-Laws <sup>(2)</sup>, all contract approvals, and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office. He or she shall be an attorney of record duly admitted to the practice of law. The ~~National Judge Advocate NJA~~ shall not render opinions to individual members or lower Echelons except by, and through, members of the ~~National Executive Committee NEC~~. Opinions rendered by Judge Advocates (JA) of lower Echelons shall be subject to review of the ~~National Judge Advocate NJA~~, upon ~~presentation~~ presentation to him or her through a member of the ~~National Executive Committee NEC~~, but only after review and attempted resolution by the ~~Judge Advocates JAs~~ of all lower Echelons. It shall be the duty of the ~~National Judge Advocate NJA~~ to approve and certify the ~~National Constitution and Bylaws~~ National Constitution & By-Laws or any amendments thereto of all Echelons and of any Subsidiary Organization. It shall be the duty of the NJA to approve and certify the Manual of Ceremonies or any requested changes thereto of all echelons. <sup>(3)</sup> The NJA shall form a committee of the Department Judge Advocates and other individuals as he/ she may determine may be of assistance in the National Constitution & By-Laws amendments and Manual of Ceremonies change requests consideration process. <sup>(4)</sup> The decision of the ~~National Judge Advocate NJA~~ on questions concerning construction and interpretation of the National Constitution ~~and By-laws & By-Laws~~ as referred to him or her by a Post, County or Department, shall be final, provided, however, that his or her ~~decision~~ decision may be overruled by the National Convention, or by

a majority vote of the members of the ~~National Executive Committee~~ NEC present and voting at any regular or special meeting. The NJA shall be an Advisor (Ex-Officio) to several committees: NEC (voice and vote) <sup>(5.6.a.)</sup>, National Board of Inquiry (voice, no vote) <sup>(7.b.)</sup>, National Convention Committee (voice and vote) <sup>(7.c.)</sup>, National Court (voice, no vote) <sup>(7.d.)</sup>, National Finance Board (voice, no vote) <sup>(7.e.)</sup>, National Personnel Committee (voice and vote) <sup>(7.g.)</sup>, National Policy Committee (voice and vote) <sup>(7.h.)</sup>.

**5. Rationale for the Change:**

- a. Use acronyms (first use rule). This will considerably shorten the length of this document.
- b. The phrase National Constitution and Bylaws is written a couple of different ways throughout this document. Let us be consistent and use only “National Constitution & By-Laws”.
- c. We stated here that the NJA is responsible for changes (amendments) to the C&B. The NJA is also responsible for the Manual of Ceremonies, let us state it here for the general member. Re: By-Laws Article XII Official Publication and Manual of Ceremonies.
- d. Form a Committee: Changes (C&B amendments and Manual of Ceremonies changes) are submitted by a Post JA through the Department JA via the National Executive Assistant to the NC and NED to the NJA. This is an overwhelming task for one person to eliminate redundancies from all the departments and place in Article/ Section order.
- e. Advisor: The NJA is an ex-officio member of several committee, but it does not state it here in the NJA paragraph. You must be an expert of the C&B to know which committee the NJA is on. Put them all here so the NJA will know his/ her responsibilities.

**6. Impacts to Constitution:**

- a. NEC: Constitution – Article VII National Executive Committee Section 1. (Pg. 7), States NJA has a vote, voice is assumed. **NONE**
- b. Subsidiary Organizations: Constitution Article XII Subsidiary Organizations, Section 2. (Pg. 10) **NONE**

**7. Impacts to the By-Laws:**

- a. National Housing Commission: By-Laws Article III National Executive Committee, Section 4. (Pg. 23) and 4.a. **Delete** all reference to the National Housing Commission as it was removed years ago, and the C&B was not updated to reflect that.
- b. Board of Inquiry: By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 1. (Pg. 23) Why isn't the NJA on this Board? Suggestion: (voice, without vote).
- c. National Convention Committee: By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 3. (Pg. 24) Why is not the NJA on this Committee? Are not contracts to be signed?
- d. National Court: By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 4. (Pg. 24) Why isn't the NJA on this? The NJA is the C&B expert.
- e. National Finance Board: By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 5. (Pg. 25) National Finance Board (ex-officio, without vote).
- f. National Housing Commission: By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 6, (Pg.25) National Housing Commission **DELETE** entirely. This commission does not exist.

- g. Nat Personnel Committee: By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 7. (Pg. 26) Why isn't the NJA consulted before an employee can be terminated?
- h. National Policy Committee: By-Laws Article IV Committees and Commissions, Section 8. (Pg. 26) (states "...voice, but without vote...").
- i. By-Laws Article VI National Officers, Section 1. (Pg. 28) States the NJA is Appointed (voice and vote) **NONE**.
- j. By-Laws Article VI National Officers, Section 4. (Pg. 28) states "The National Commander shall:... sign all contracts approved by the National Judge Advocate,..."  
**NONE**
- k. By-Laws Article VI National Officers, Section 5. (Pg. 29) **NONE**
- l. By-Laws Article VII Departments, Section 11. (Pg 33) **NONE**
- m. By-Laws Article VIII District or County Councils, Section 10. (Pg 36) **NONE**
- n. By-Laws Article IX Posts, Section 13. (Pg 39) **NONE**
- o. By-Laws Article X Discipline, Section 3. Procedures, Section 3(i). (Pg 43) **NONE**
- p. By-Laws Article X Discipline, Section 4. (Pg. 43) **NONE**
- q. By-Laws Article XII Official Publication and Manual of Ceremonies. (Pg. 44) It should be stated here that the Editor is responsible for "The Jewish Veteran" and that the Manual of Ceremonies is the responsibility of the NJA and that the Manual of Ceremonies will not conflict with the C&B.
- r. By-Laws Article XIII, Rules of Incorporation, Section 1(c). Pg 45. **NONE**
- s. By-Laws Article XIII, Rules of Incorporation, Section 2. Pg. 45. **NONE**
- t. By-Laws Article XIII, Rules of Incorporation, Section 3. Pg 46. **NONE**
- u. By-Laws Article XIII, Rules of Incorporation, Section 6. Pg. 47. **NONE**

## Attachment—Proposed Amendment

1. **Constitution Article IV (Membership), Section 4 (Life Members)**
2. **Submitted by:** Edward Hirsch, Department of Michigan
3. **As it appears now:**

### *JWV National Constitution Article IV (Membership), Section 4 (Life Members):*

**Section 4 (Life Members).** The National Executive Committee is authorized to make adjustments in life membership arrangements with the Posts, District and County Councils, Departments or Members at Large, as it may deem proper under the circumstances.

(a) Active Life Members. All active members who become life members shall be considered active members, for all purposes, without the obligation for payment of dues.

(b) Associate Life Members. All associate members who become life members shall be considered associate members, for all purposes, without the obligation for payment of dues. (Amended 8/14)

### 4. **Proposed Change:**

**Section 4 (Life Members).** The National Executive Committee is authorized to make adjustments in life membership arrangements with the Posts, District and County Councils, Departments or Members at Large, as it may deem proper under the circumstances.

(a) Active Life Members. All active members who become life members shall be considered active members, for all purposes, without the obligation for payment of dues. Active members who have paid dues for a period of 50 or more years shall be granted Active Life Membership.

(b) Associate Life Members. All associate members who become life members shall be considered associate members, for all purposes, without the obligation for payment of dues. Associate members who have paid dues for a period of 50 or more years shall be granted Associate Life Membership.

### 5. **Rationale for the Change:**

Active and Associate members that have contributed to this organization for 50 or more years are likely now on fixed incomes. Continued JWV membership should not be a financial hardship on anyone.

All members, including Life members, receive annual solicitations for money from JWV-USA, so those that are still willing to contribute more remain able to do so.

This amendment will enable retention of those long-time loyal members that may become financially strapped.