

# DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO

## GENERAL ORDER #2



BRIAN RAVAK

STATE COMMANDER

2024-2025

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**ATTENTION: ALL POST AND DISTRICT  
COMMANDERS:**

**IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT YOU  
SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR  
POST AND DISTRICT QUARTERMASTER,  
ADJUTANT AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEM  
AND ALL POST MEMBERS AT YOUR  
MEETING**

# DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

1. **DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDERS ARE TO BE READ AND DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT POST/DISTRICT MEETING AND FILED FOR REFERENCE.**
  
2. **VFW National Convention Attendees:**
  - a. Department's Dinner is scheduled for Brazeiros Louisville - Brazilian Steakhouse on 28-Jul-24 at 6:00PM
  - b. On Friday, 26-July-24, I am requesting everyone where this year's Red Department Polo; if you don't have the Department Polo, please wear RED to Remember Everyone Deployed.
  - c. Tuesday, 30-Jul-24 at 6PM is the Patriotic Celebration. Wear Red, White, and Blue to celebrate the occasion. Bring Noise Makers, Glow Sticks, etc. to celebrate.
  - d. Dress:
    - i. Line-Officers, Business Dress during Business Session, otherwise, Business Casual
    - ii. All-American Award Recipients, Business Dress during All-American ceremony, otherwise, Business Casual
    - iii. All others, Business Casual

**NOTE:** Business Casual is defined as Slacks or Khaki/Docker style pants with polo style shirt
  
3. **VFW Western Conference Attendees:**
  - a. Conference Dress: Business Casual

**NOTE:** Business Casual is defined as Slacks or Khaki/Docker style pants with polo style shirt
  
4. **July/August Membership Challenge:** Membership Chairman Mark Decker's email highlights the July/August Challenge. The Challenge: The Post that leads their Division in new, reinstates, and renews on 1-Sept-24, will receive a \$50 gift card to the VFW store.
  
5. **District Committee Chairs:** Many districts are missing program/committee chairmen; absent appointed program/committee chairmen, all chairmanships default to the District Commander; it is highly encouraged that you appoint comrades to help you be successful.
  
6. **Flying Squadron Training**
  - a. Department Training Dates
    - i. **Southern Training:** Joint Training on 10-AUG-24 beginning at 0900 at VFW Post 6917 in Las Cruces; a light breakfast will be provided @ 0800; lunch will also be provided for a small fee; VFW Auxiliary will remain at Post 6917 for the afternoon Auxiliary Only

- Training; Comrades will transition to VFW Post 3242 for the Comrade Specialized Training.
- ii. **Northern Training:** Joint Training on 17-AUG-24 @ VFW Post 401 in Albuquerque; a light breakfast will be provided @ 0800; lunch will also be provided for a small fee; Auxiliary and Comrade specialized training will occur in the afternoon at VFW Post 401
7. **Quartermaster Bonds** are due by 31-Aug-24, to cover Posts from 1-Sep-24 to 31-Aug-25. It is the duty of the Post Commander to ensure the Post is properly bonded.
8. **Food Drive Competition:** VFW Department of New Mexico 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Food Drive
- a. Dates: 1-SEP-24 to 30-SEP-24
  - b. ROEs:
    - i. Honor System prevails: Food may only be collected during the month of September
    - ii. Weight Receipts and Money Amounts emailed to Department Adjutant and Assistant Department Adjutant
      1. Department Adjutant email: [vfwnmhq@gmail.com](mailto:vfwnmhq@gmail.com)
      2. Department Assistant Adjutant email: [torihdx@gmail.com](mailto:torihdx@gmail.com)
9. **All Officers:** All officers are expected to abide by the Duties and Obligations of their elected or appointed position IAW the National Bylaws, Manual of Procedures, and the VFW Ritual.
10. **Commanders:** You are reminded that any member barred from a Post for violation of Bylaws and/or conduct unbecoming will be allowed to attend all regular scheduled or special called Post Meetings. They may arrive fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled meeting and must leave Post property immediately following the close of the meeting. They may not purchase any type beverages and entering the property at any other time will be subject to arrest for trespassing on VFW property.
11. **Alcoholic Beverages:** The dispensation and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages or use of smoking/vaping products in VFW meeting rooms during VFW meetings are prohibited. See Article X Sec. 1001 paragraph 25 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures.
12. **All-State Team:** The Department Commander will select an All-State Team based on the performance of each individual Post. Prerequisites are listed in the 2024–2025 Department Leadership Manual. It is every Commander’s responsibility to know the requirements as set forth in the Leadership Manual. You must complete all requisite VFW Programs and achieve 102% in membership.
13. **Relief Fund:** A relief fund shall be established and maintained by the Post. In this fund shall be credited the net proceeds from the distribution of Buddy Poppies and such other monies as may

be solicited or donated for veterans’ relief purposes. See Sec 219 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedures.

**14. Buddy Poppy Program:** Posts are highly encouraged to distribute Buddy Poppies year around and not just on Memorial Day. Each time a Post participates in an activity where the public will be present, Buddy Poppies should be present as a fundraising tool and to honor our fallen comrades. Remember to order your Buddy Poppies a minimum of 8 weeks in advance of your distribution date. The Buddy Poppy order form can be found on the Department Website [vfwnm.org](http://vfwnm.org). They **MUST** be ordered from the Department.

**15.** I personally want to thank you for your service and commitment to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Department of New Mexico. Remember, our mission is all about **Helping Our Veterans!**

**16.** Email Corrections:

- a. Dept Jr Vice Commander Gary Logsdon – Email: [garydlogsdon@gmail.com](mailto:garydlogsdon@gmail.com)
- b. Chief of Staff Kathie Schiebel – Email: [kschiebel5@gmail.com](mailto:kschiebel5@gmail.com)
- c. Mack Dyer’s email to [mack.dyer@gmail.com](mailto:mack.dyer@gmail.com) (there are 6 of them)

**17.** Appointment Updates:

**REMOVE**

- Replace Mark Bowman as Department Surgeon with Comrade Len Hampton
- Replace Jennifer Ray as Student Veterans Association Chair with Comrade Greg Cranmer
- Replace Tom Larison as VFW Riders Chairman with Comrade Ted Gray

**ADD**

Department Surgeon	Len Hampton P.O. Box 2365 Mesilla Park, NM 88047	575-405-9001 (6917) Email: <a href="mailto:vfwnm12@gmail.com">vfwnm12@gmail.com</a>	
New Mexico National Council Member	Victoria Haddox 2169 Sagecrest Loop Rio Rancho, NM 87144	Ph: (505) 203-5007 Email: <a href="mailto:torihdx@gmail.com">torihdx@gmail.com</a>	(5890)
Convention Registration	Kelly Fouse PO Box 65 Ruidoso Downs, NM 88324	(575) 973-2213 (7686 Aux) Email: <a href="mailto:kelfouse@gmail.com">kelfouse@gmail.com</a>	
Convention Registration	Beth Miller 5475 Porter Dr Spc 116 Las Cruces, NM 88012	(575) 635-0583 (6917 Aux) Email: <a href="mailto:bethvfw6917@gmail.com">bethvfw6917@gmail.com</a>	

Special Project Chair      Beth Miller      575-635-0583      (6917 Aux)  
 5475 Porter Dr Spc 116      Email: bethvfw6917@gmail.com  
 Las Cruces, NM 88012

Special Project Co-Chair      Michelle Dennison      (3370 Aux)  
 P.O. Box 296      Email: nmvfwamd1@gmail.com  
 McIntosh, NM 87032

Student Veterans      Greg Cranmer      575-202-5988      (6917)  
 Association Chairman      P.O. Box 352      Email: nmtaser@gmail.com  
 Organ, NM 88052

VFW Riders Chairman      Ted Gray      (575) 642-1831      (6917)  
 6990 Columbus Dr      Email: kbleted@comcast.net  
 Las Cruces, NM 88011

**ADD TO DIRECTORY**

District 4 Meeting Info:

August 3, 2024	Post 12212	Santa Clara	11:00 AM***
December 7, 2024	Post 3317	Williamsburg	10:30 AM
April 5, 2025	Post 1389	Elephant Butte	10:30 AM

\*\*\* (Auxiliary will meet at Post 1389 in Elephant Butte at 11:00AM)  
 (Joint session at 10:30 with VFW meeting at 11:00 and Lunch to follow)

**4243 – DEL VALLE ARELLANES    2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday @ 7:00 PM      Dues: \$38.50 (District 2)**  
 Meeting Place: K of C Hall, 829 Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo, NM 87004      Ph: (505) 771-0693  
 Mail: 848 Camino Del Bosque, Bernalillo, NM, 87004      Email: kofcmontano@gmail.com

Commander      Robert L. Montano      Ph: (505) 771-0693  
 189 Margarets Ln.      Email: kofcmontano@gmail.com  
 Bernalillo, NM 87004

Sr. Vice Commander      Hector Ortiz      Ph: (505) 913-9494  
 1014 Bernalito Ct      Email: tango16tango16@msn.com  
 Bernalillo, NM 87004

Jr. Vice Commander      Gerald Gurule      Ph: (505) 688-7186  
 PO Box 2045      Email: gjgurule@q.com  
 Cloudcroft, NM 88317

Quartermaster

Joseph C. Gurule  
848 Camino Del Bosque  
Bernalillo, NM 87004

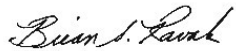
Ph: (505) 507-3090  
Email: jcg1221@centurylink.net

Adjutant

Joseph C. Gurule  
848 Camino Del Bosque  
Bernalillo, NM 87004

Ph: (505) 507-3090  
Email: jcg1221@centurylink.net

Respectfully,



Brian Ravak  
VFW State Commander  
Department of New Mexico

Attested By:



David Fouse  
VFW State Adjutant  
Department of New Mexico