

**Subject:** November 2025 American Legion Dept of TN Monthly Bulletin

**2026 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE:** We will return on January 10 and 11, 2026 to Embassy Suites Nashville- SE, Murfreesboro for our annual Mid-Winter Conference. Event registration link along with a link to reserve accommodations are on the Department website landing page: [www.tennesseeligion.org](http://www.tennesseeligion.org).

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**COMMANDER WILEY'S SIX PRIORITIES:**

1. **Be the One –**
  - a. Be the One is going to continue to be at the forefront.”
  - b. Columbia Protocol Training
  - c. Eliminate the Stigma
2. **Better Together.**
  - a. American Legion Family
    - i. Successful Posts, Units, and Squadrons work together.
    - ii. We got your back.
3. **Legislative Agenda.**
  - a. [Legion.org/action](http://Legion.org/action)
4. **Three C's**
  - a. Communication
  - b. Community
  - c. Camaraderie
5. **Veterans and Children Foundation**
  - a. Accredited VSO Training
  - b. Temporary Financial Assistance
6. **American 250**
  - a. [Legion.org/usa250/challenge](http://Legion.org/usa250/challenge).

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**FOUR RULES OF AN AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAM**

**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 prior approval.

**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 signatories appointed by the parent organization.

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**MONTHLY POST ADJUTANT TRAINING:** Virtual training is open to any post, unit, or squadron member willing to participate, Zoom meetings are set for the 4th Monday each month at 4:30 Central/5:30 Eastern. Find the Zoom link on the Department website.

**VAMC CHRISTMAS DONATIONS/PARTIES:** Please have all donations sent to Department Headquarters before **December 10, 2025**.

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**RESOLUTIONS:** Posts will submit resolutions, not affecting the Department Constitution and Bylaws, to the Department Adjutant. Resolutions to be considered at a Department Executive Committee Meeting must be sent to the Department Adjutant by **December 21st, 2025**. Resolutions Affecting the Department Constitution & Bylaws must be submitted by **December 1<sup>st</sup> 2025**.

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**DEPARTMENT/DISTRICT OFFICER NOMINATION RESOLUTIONS:** Department Constitution Article VII, Section 1: “At the Department Convention a Department Commander and Department Senior Vice Commander *whose nominating resolutions have been forwarded to the*

*Department Adjutant, and received by the Mid-Winter Conference*, will be elected by the whole body, who cannot serve until properly installed at the same Department Convention. The Department Commander and/or Department Senior Vice Commander will be limited to two terms in office, and they must run consecutively. At the Division caucus conducted during the annual Department Convention, there shall be a Vice Commander for each of the three Grand Divisions whose nominating resolutions have been forwarded to the Department Adjutant, and received by the Mid-Winter Conference, to be elected, who cannot serve until properly installed at the same Department Convention.” Please have resolutions to the Department by **January 8, 2026**.

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**CHARITABLE SOLICITATIONS AND GAMING:** The Tennessee Nonprofit Gaming Law allows eligible 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(19) organizations to hold an annual “game of chance” fundraising event. To conduct such an event, an organization **must** file the following with the division:

An application and all required attachments between July 1 and January 31 each year for the events to be held the following July 1 - June 30. A non-refundable fee. The division will review the application and transmit a list of all qualifying applicants to the General Assembly for its authorization. For more information call the Division of Charitable Solicitations at (615) 741-2555 or view the “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQs) go to: <http://sos.tn.gov/products/charitable-solicitations-and-gaming/charitable-gaming-faqs>. Raffle s, poker runs, and 50/50 events are *illegal* unless permitted by Tennessee Secretary of State.

**INCORPORATION:** Is your post incorporated to protect its members? Unsure, check with the Tennessee Secretary of State’s office.

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**DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS OFFICES:** Will be closed October 13; November 11, 27 and 28, 2025; and again, December 24, 2025 through January 2, 2026, please plan accordingly

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**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:** shall be paid by October 20, of each year before the start of the next calendar year. Legion membership is annual. The Legion year being from January 1 to December 31. Department and National dues shall be paid for the full year, irrespective of the month in which the member shall join the local Post. Membership dues collected at a local Post include Department and National dues. Membership dues are three-fold, Post, Department and National. Membership is not considered current until paid and transmitted to all three levels.

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**ORATORICAL CONTEST:** We enclosed Oratorical information for each Post and to share with your High Schools. First place state scholarship is \$3000. Sent applications Department Headquarters by 9 February, 2026. *District Oratorical Contests are 21 February, through 21 March 2026. Divisional Oratorical Contests are between 28 March to 4 April 2026. The Department Oratorical Contest is set for April 11, 2026 held at Department Headquarters.*

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**FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR:** To recognize a well-rounded Firefighter, who has exceeded, above and beyond, the duty requirements expected of the position held and who exemplifies the virtues of professionalism and dedication and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service to the community, state, or Nation. Submissions due to the Department by **January 5, 2026**.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR:** The American Legion gives its National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award to a well-rounded law enforcement officer who has exceeded the duty requirements expected of their position and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service coupled with professional achievement. Nominees must be U.S. citizens and living, active, full-time, and paid, sworn law enforcement officers entrusted with full authority and the powers of arrest. Submissions due to the Department by **January 5, 2026**.

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**EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR:** To recognize a well-rounded Emergency Medical Technician, who has exceeded, and has gone above and beyond, the expected duty requirements of the position exemplify the virtues of professionalism and dedication and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service to the community, state, or Nation. Submissions due by **January 5, 2026**.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL REGIONAL INFORMATION CONFERENCE:**

Attendees will gain valuable insights into Constitution & Bylaws, Post Operations, Be The One, and more, with sessions designed to enhance member engagement and leadership. Mission Statement: To enable the American Legion Family to promote the founding principles of our organization through focused regional training and education; ensuring collaboration and networking of our members. Challenging our Legion Family to fully understand our legacy and prepare them to lead The American Legion beyond the 21st Century. Vision Statement: Through American Legion Family education, we enable and facilitate a culture to create an environment where the needs of our organizations, veterans, youth, and community are fulfilled. To register visit: [American Legion Training | The American Legion](#)

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**EMPLOYMENT AWARDS:** The Department annually presents awards at the Department Convention to honor employers who hire veterans, disabled veterans, and older workers. We also recognize those who help veterans find employment. Awards include:

- *Employer of the Year – Small, Mid-Size, and Large*
- *Employer of the Disabled Award*
- *Employer of Older Workers Award*
- *Local Veterans Employment Representative of the Year*
- *Outstanding Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialist of the Year*
- *Outstanding Employment Service Office of the Year*

Nomination forms for each award are available through the Department website. Please include no more than two typed narrative pages as well as the official nomination form. Applications due to Department Headquarters by **January 5, 2026**.

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**MEMBERS RENEWED ONLINE POST PAYMENT** : On or about the October 8<sup>th</sup> Department Headquarters sent quarterly member online reimbursement ACH transaction to the post that have enrolled in the ACH process (approximately 50% of our posts). Checks were mailed to the remaining October 10<sup>th</sup>. Reimbursements go to posts whose reimbursable per capita is equal to or greater than \$25. If less than \$25, the funds are held until the next quarter or when the reimbursable exceeds the \$25 threshold.

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**PAID UP FOR LIFE POST PER CAPITA:** We received Post PUFL per capita checks October 8<sup>th</sup> and were mailed October 9<sup>th</sup> to each post's dues remittance address. The per capita checks are based on the post's per capita at the time of member's application, not the post's current per capita rate.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** Anyone interested in becoming an office manager for the American Legion Department of Tennessee, please email [Mike@TNLegion.org](mailto:Mike@TNLegion.org).

**NOVEMBER CALENDAR**

- 2: Daylight Savings Time Ends – Fall Back
- 6: 3rd District Meeting, Post 81, Cleveland, 6 pm EST
- 7: 1st District Meeting, Post 145, Bristol, 6 pm EST
- 8: 2nd District Meeting, Post 70 Lenoir City, 12 pm EST
- 10: [Happy Birthday](#) US Marine Corps!

- 11: Veterans Day (HQ Offices Closed)
- 13: 4th District Meeting, Post 4 Livingston, 6 pm CST.
- 13: 3rd Membership Target Date, 65%
- 14: 5th District Meeting, Post 17 Gallatin, 6 pm CST

**NOVEMBER CALENDAR CONTINUED**

- 15: 6th District Meeting Post 34, Waverly, 1 pm CST
- 16-21: National American Legion College
- 17: 7<sup>th</sup> District Meeting Post 78, Manchester 6 pm CST
- 24: Post Adjutant's Virtual Training & Education
- 27-28: Thanksgiving (Offices Closed)

**DECEMBER CALENDAR**

- 22: Post Adjutant's Virtual Training & Education
- 24-31 Christmas Holiday, Dept offices closed