

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
General Orders No. 11
Series 1997-1998
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April 2, 1998**

1. Since 1991 the National Officers of this Order have repeatedly found it necessary to intervene in disputes within the Department of Massachusetts. Beginning with the reversal of a merger of two camps in 1991. PCINC George Long, then National Secretary James Lyons and then National Treasurer Richard Orr traveled to Boston to audit the camp's books and arbitrate a plan for the division of the camp property. The division of the Camps was a result of disputes between two groups of brothers one lead by Frank Tucker and the other by James Marley.

This was followed by accusations against Brother Marley by Brother Tucker. These accusations concerned topics which had and have nothing to do with the SUVCW. Then came the disputes between Frank Tucker and Douglas Knight which lasted several years. This was succeeded by Frank Tucker, as Department Secretary, forging the signature of Ellsworth Brown, Department Commander, to a number of letters and documents. The forgery was accomplished through the use of a signature stamp. Frank Tucker sent letters to numerous Brothers over the "signature" of the Department Commander and presented the content of the letters as official Department positions. When Commander Brown was asked about these letters and position, he had no knowledge of them.

And now we have the Frank Tucker - Leslie Covey - Camp 9 1998 version of this behavior. There is an obvious common thread in all these problems.

2. It is the finding of this office that Brother Frank Tucker:

A. Has been and continues to be a disruptive force within the Department of Massachusetts;

B. Has repeatedly exceeded his authority to wit:

- Suspended Camp 9 without authority to do so,
- Stripped Brother Leslie Covey of rank as a Past Camp and Past Department Commander without authority to do so,
- Issued Department position statements when Department Secretary without authority to do so and without the Department Commander, Department Council or Department Encampment approving the position statements, and
- Caused the Department Commander's signature to be affixed to letters and documents without specific authorization to do so;

C. Has removed Leslie Covey from the office of Department Secretary for allegedly failing to perform his duties without requiring the previous Department Secretary to provide the records necessary for Brother Covey to perform the duties of his office;

D. Has failed to take action against the current Department Secretary for the same failings as alleged against Brother Covey (the Department of Massachusetts has failed to file its quarterly reports on time and is currently in arrears); and

C. Has violated his oath of office:

- by failing to rule with urbanity,
- by failing to rule with impartiality,
- by failing to assure compliance with the Constitution and Regulations of the Order,
- by failing to bring the Department of Massachusetts Department by-laws into agreement with the National Constitution and Regulations as required by Chapter II Article VIII of the Regulations, and
- by failing to adhere to the Constitution and Regulations in the performance of his duties as Department Commander.

3. After consultation with the Council of Administration and other National Officers, for all of the foregoing and pursuant to the authority vested in me by Chapter II, Article IV, Section 7 of the Regulations, Brother Frank Tucker is hereby removed from the office of Department Commander of the Department of Massachusetts.

4. After consultation with the Council of Administration and other National Officers, for all of the forgoing and pursuant to the authority vest in me by Chapter V, Article VI, Section 6 of the Regulations Brother Frank Tucker is stripped of rank as a Past Department Commander. He is stripped of rank as a Past Camp Commander. He is barred from holding any appointed or elected National office, any appointed or elected Department office and any appointed or elected Camp office for a period of ten (10) years. He is barred from serving on any National or Department committee. He is prohibited from representating the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in any capacity other than as a member of his local camp.

5. All Department property in Frank Tucker's possession shall be conveyed to Brother Frederick Cauldwell, Department Sr. Vice Commander within five (5) days of the date of this Order. All camp property in Frank Tucker's possession shall be conveyed to the proper camp officer within five (5) days of the date of this Order.

6. Department Sr. Vice Commander Cauldwell and Department Treasurer Edward Parks shall immediately notify any and all organizations, governmental agencies and financial instutions with whom the Department of Massachusetts has established relationships that Frank Tucker no longer represents this Order in any official capacity by presenting a copy of this Order to those organizations, agencies and institutions.

7. Pursuant to the requirements of Chapter V, Article VI, Section 6, Brother Gregg Mierka, Commander of the Department of Rhode Island is hereby appointed Trial Commissioner to take written and/or verbal testimony relative to the above items and to ascertain if further action is required by this office.

By Order of
Richard D. Orr
Commander-in-Chief

Attested:
David Hann
National Secretary

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