

# Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War

Office of the Commander-in-Chief

Perley E. Mellor, Commander-in-Chief

16 Norma Drive

Nashua , NH 03062-1340

[cinc@suvcw.org](mailto:cinc@suvcw.org)

General Order #5

SERIES 2012-2013

2 October 2012

1 - The National counselor recently issued Opinion I addressing the question presented from the Department of Kansas about the wording of their Department Bylaws.

2 - The current wording in the Department of Kansas Bylaws regarding incorporation of policies is: "Included herein by reference and made a part of these Bylaws are the following rules, regulations, policies, and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto: Section A. POLICIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF KANSAS. All policies of the Department of Kansas which have been approved by a Department Encampment, until such time as the policy is officially rescinded by a subsequent encampment."

3 - As an alternative to how the Bylaws currently read above, they should be changed to read as follows, this will eliminate the policies and procedures from being considered a direct part of the Bylaws and requiring CinC approval for changes. *"The following rules, regulation, policies and any subsequent amendments or modifications thereto shall require the approval of the Department Commander or the Department Encampment and they can be used to manage the department in support of these Bylaws."*

4 - ARTICLE VIII

By-laws

Each Department shall adopt By-laws consistent with these Regulations, and subject to the approval of the Commander-in-Chief. All amendments, alterations, or deletion of Department By-laws shall be submitted to the Commander-in-Chief for approval as to consistency with the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and Regulations. No By-laws, amendments, alterations, or deletions shall be effective until approved by the Commander-in-Chief in writing. Any provision of a Department's By- Laws which is inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, or Regulations is null and void.

5 - This being said, any items placed in bylaws require CinC approval. If they want to have policies and amend them whenever they want, they can, as long as they are not part of the departments bylaws. It would seem that number 3 above is fine for them to state - providing these are NOT part of the bylaws, only supporting them. Number 2 would have to be changed by the department.

Ordered this 2nd Day of October, 2012.

Perley E. Mellor.  
Commander-In-Chief  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Eugene Mortorff  
Secretary,  
National Order, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

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