



Department of Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars

SEPTEMBER 2020

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 2

2020 – 2021 Series

1. **Department of Texas VFW Headquarters closed to visitors:** Due to Travis County COVID-19 restrictions, the Texas VFW Headquarters office in Austin is closed to ALL visitors until Tuesday, December 15, 2020. You may request an “in-person appointment” by calling the office at 512-834-8535.
2. **The Texas VFW Foundation:** The Texas VFW Foundation is ready for the large influx of assistance claims for individual veterans who have lost wages or been adversely affected due to COVID-19 and the 2020 Hurricane season. Refer veterans to the Texas VFW Foundation website for financial assistance: <https://www.texasvfw.org/foundation>
3. **Candidates for Department Office 2021-2022:**
 - State Commander, Norman Macey, Post 4816, Porter, D-17
 - State Senior Vice Commander, Lynn Toomer, Post 10429, Benbrook, D-21
 - State Junior Vice Commander, Larry Levy, Post 5873, New Boston, D-12
 - State Junior Vice Commander, Larry Sanders, Post 10241, Lytle, D-20
 - State Junior Vice Commander, William Shaffer, Post 2427, Tomball, D-4
 - State Quartermaster, Dan West, Post 3413, San Marcos, D-5
 - State Judge Advocate, Keith King, Post 3278, Brownwood, D-8
 - State Surgeon, Gerard P. “Jerry” Greene, Post 6796, Dallas, D-3
 - State Chaplain, Timothy Anderson, Post 3894, Waxahachie, D-30
 - State Chaplain, Michael “Foy” Day, Post 4709, Conroe, D-17
 - State Chaplain, Carl Lilly, Post 8878, Wichita Falls, D-15
4. **Candidate for National VFW Office 2020-2021:**
 - VFW National Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief, Larry Velasquez, Jr., Post 8932, D-6
5. **VFW Southern Conference (cancelled):**

The VFW Southern Conference scheduled to be held October 29-November 1, 2020, in Asheville, North Carolina, has been cancelled.

6. VFW National Commander-in-Chief's Homecoming (postponed):

The VFW National Commander-in-Chief's Homecoming that was scheduled to be held the last week of August, in Portsmouth, Virginia, has been postponed.

7. Patriot Day, September 11th:

Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11th, is designated as "Patriot Day." The President requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States.

8. National POW/MIA Recognition Day, September 18th:

Posts should conduct an appropriate ceremony. Information on conducting a ceremony can be found in the current VFW Manual of Procedure.

9. District Meetings for September & October 2020:

• <u>District 2</u>	<u>September 12th</u>	<u>Post 2775 – Orange</u>
• <u>District 14</u>	<u>September 19th</u>	<u>Post 1820 – Temple</u>
• <u>District 20</u>	<u>September 19th</u>	<u>Post 8555 – Poth</u>
• <u>District 4</u>	<u>October 17th</u>	<u>Post 2427 – Tomball</u>
• <u>District 5</u>	<u>October 17th</u>	<u>Post 8800 – Canyon Lake</u>
• <u>District 6</u>	<u>October 10th</u>	<u>Post 6386 -- Ingleside</u>
• <u>District 10</u>	<u>October 31st</u>	<u>Post 812 – El Paso</u>
• <u>District 13</u>	<u>October 18th</u>	<u>Post 8552 – Del Rio</u>
• <u>District 15</u>	<u>October 10th</u>	<u>Post 8878 – Wichita Falls</u>
• <u>District 19</u>	<u>October 17th</u>	<u>Post 1836 – Lufkin</u>
• <u>District 21</u>	<u>October 11th</u>	<u>Post 4746 – Weatherford</u>
• <u>District 25</u>	<u>October 24th</u>	<u>Post 4372 – Odessa</u>
• <u>District 29</u>	<u>October 3rd</u>	<u>Post 8553 – Clifton</u>
• <u>District 30</u>	<u>October 17th</u>	<u>Post 7103 – Athens</u>

10. Post Audits: The 4th Quarter Post Audit Report (for the 2019-2020 Administrative year) were due by July 31, 2020 on Trustee's Audit forms. The (original) signed copy should have been mailed or emailed to Department of Texas VFW Headquarters. Deadline dates for Post Audits for the 2020-2021 Administrative Year:

1st Quarter Post Audit Report due by October 31, 2020

2nd Quarter Post Audit Report due by January 31, 2021

3rd Quarter Post Audit Report due by April 30, 2021

- 11.**Proof of Eligibility of elected and appointed positions:** Deputy State Inspectors will be reviewing all proof of eligibility for all elected and appointed positions during their scheduled visits to Posts and Districts.
- 12.**Post Inspections:** Post inspections will only be done by one of the following: District Commander, District Senior Vice Commander or District Junior Vice Commander.
- 13.**Deadline to register Post and District Service Officers & Quartermaster Bond Application for Posts and Districts:** September 1, 2020 was the due date to be submitted to Department of Texas VFW Headquarters.
- 14.**Deadline to receive Veteran Project Participation Report (VPR) for Operation Iraqi Freedom:** September 30, 2020 is the due date for the VPR for Operation Iraqi Freedom to be submitted to Department of Texas VFW Headquarters.
- 15.**Deadline Dates:** Refer to the Texas VFW Standard Operating (SOP) procedures for VFW Post for a full list of 2020-2021 deadline dates for all programs and requirements. Visit online: <https://www.texasvfw.org/> or <https://www.texasvfw.org/sop-training-materials>.
- 16.**Texas VFW News subscription:** The magazine is published four times per year by the Department of Texas VFW and the subscription price is \$30.00. To subscribe contact Dan West, State Adjutant/Quartermaster at: dan@texasvfw.org
- 17.**Dates to Remember (Department of Texas VFW HQs will be closed):**
 - September 7th - Labor Day
 - October 12th - Columbus Day
 - November 11th -Veterans Day
 - November 26th & 27th - Thanksgiving Observance
 - December 24th & 25th - Christmas Observance
 - December 31st - New Year's Eve Observance
- 18.**2020-2021 Theme for Voice of Democracy:**
 - “Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?”**
 - Voice of Democracy (VOD) is open to 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students enrolled in public, private or parochial schools in Texas. **To qualify, all student entries must be submitted to a sponsoring local VFW Post by the “new” due date of November 15, 2020.**
 - The official entry form can be found on the Texas VFW website: <https://www.texasvfw.org/sop-training-materials>

19. 2020-2021 Theme for Patriot's Pen:

"What is Patriotism to Me?"

Patriot's Pen is open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students enrolled in public, private or parochial schools in Texas. **To qualify, all student entries must be submitted to a sponsoring local VFW Post by the "new" due date of November 15, 2020.** The official entry form can be found on the Texas VFW website: <https://www.texasvfw.org/sop-training-materials>

20. Teacher of the Year 2021:

The VFW Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Entry Form for 2021 is to be submitted to a sponsoring local VFW Post. **To qualify, all entries must be submitted by the "new" due date of November 15, 2020.** The official "new fillable form" can be found on the Texas VFW website: <https://www.texasvfw.org/sop-training-materials>

21. Closing comments:

As this year continues, we still have many programs that we must proceed with (Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Teacher of the Year and Veteran Projects-VPR's). Most importantly is our membership, as we are a membership-based organization. Sometimes we must think outside the box to accomplish the mission at hand. As part of the "Together as One" team, let us work hard for our Veterans.

By order of:



Richard "Dick" Shawver
State Commander

Attested By:



Dan West
State Adjutant/Quartermaster

