

BYLAWS

LCPL JONATHAN L. SMITH DETACHMENT

SMITTY Det. # 1427

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

DECATUR, ALABAMA

PREAMBLE

In the name of the beneficent God of all, we who have honorably served or are now honorably serving our country in the United States Marine Corps, for the common good of this Nation, and all nations and people of the world, and in order that the fundamental rights and freedoms of every person may be preserved, to foster interest in the affairs of the United States Marine Corps, to protect and advance the welfare of wounded or disabled Marines and FMF Corpsmen and their dependents, and for the further purposes set forth hereinafter, do solemnly and firmly, associate ourselves together in a non-profit corporation known as the LCpl Jonathan L. Smith Detachment # 1427 and order and establish these Bylaws.

ARTICLE ONE

DETACHMENT NAME

SECTION 100 — NAME. Following National Bylaws, Articles Four and Seven, the name of this corporation, will be the LCpl Jonathan L. Smith Detachment # 1427, Marine Corps League, (hereinafter referred to as the "Detachment") as incorporated in Morgan County, Alabama on March 2, 2016.

ARTICLE TWO

PURPOSE

SECTION 200 - PURPOSE. The purpose of this Detachment will be to preserve the traditions and to promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps; to band those who have been honorably discharged from that service together in fellowship that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy; to fit its members for the duties of citizenship and to encourage them to serve as ably as citizens as they served the Nation under arms; to hold sacred the history and memory of the men and women who have given their lives to the Nation; to foster love for the principles which they have supported by blood and valor since the founding of the Republic; to maintain true allegiance to American institutions; to create a bond of comradeship between those in service and those who have returned to civilian life; and to aid voluntarily and to render assistance to all Marines, former Marines, FMF Corpsmen, and FMF Navy Chaplains as well as to their widows, widowers, and orphans; to

perpetuate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interests to Marines.

SECTION 205 — FUNCTIONS. The functions of the Detachment shall include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Encourage, inspire, and recruit qualified Marines, FMF Corpsmen, FMF Navy Chaplains, and Associate Members into our ranks.
- b. Provide the highest standards of integrity, loyalty, and commitment inherent to the Marine Corps and the mottos, principles, and purposes of the Marine Corps League.
- c. Provide and enhance camaraderie within the organization and within the community.
- d. Encourage all members to be active in the various programs that enhance allegiance to our freedoms and commitment to our veterans.

SECTION 210 — STATUS. The Detachment is not formed for profit, but it is formed for promoting the ideals and purposes enumerated above. The net earnings will be devoted exclusively to the operations, charitable, education, and recreational purposes of the Detachment, as defined by state and local statutes.

SECTION 215 - ADHERANCE TO NATIONAL STANDARDS. The Detachment will adhere to the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

SECTION 220 - DEFINITIONS.

- a) GENDER — As used herein, the use of a masculine pronoun or designation shall be deemed inclusive of both the male and female gender as necessary.
- b) MAJORITY VOTE — As defined in Webster's Dictionary, "majority vote" means that "a number of votes that is more than half of the total number of those present that are eligible voters. In officer's election, when three or more are nominated, if one person does not receive a "majority vote," then the top two nominees would have a run-off election, immediately.

ARTICLE THREE

MEMBERS

SECTION 300 - MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- a) **REGULAR MEMBERSHIP** — Only persons who are serving or who have served honorably in the United States Marine Corps, "on active duty," for not less than ninety (90) days and persons who are serving or who have served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points and U.S. Navy Corpsmen who have trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device (clasp) worn on the Service Ribbon and those who earned the Warfare Device authorized for FMF Corpsmen shall be eligible for regular membership in the Marine Corps League. U. S. Navy Chaplains who served with FMF also are eligible for regular membership. Additionally, some Korean War Era Marines who were ordered to active duty prior to the completion of Recruit Training or Officer Training and subsequently received an Honorable Discharge prior to the completion of ninety (90) days active or reserve duty, shall be deemed eligible for regular Membership. Nothing in this Section shall be deemed to be retroactive prior to August 10, 2002, to affect current regular members. "Honorable Service" will be defined by the last DD-214 or Certificate of Discharge that the applicant received.
- b) **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** - Those individuals not qualified for regular membership who espouse the principles and purposes of the Marine Corps League as contained in its Congressional Charter may, upon application to this Detachment, be accepted for Associate membership in the Marine Corps League. Associate members, upon acceptance, will pay dues in the same amount as prescribed for regular members. An associate member will be entitled to all rights, privileges, and benefits of a regular member; however, such members may not vote on a membership application, an election of officers, or hold an elective office within the Marine Corps League.
1. Associate members shall be entitled to vote on the internal affairs of the Detachment provided such vote does not affect the policies, such as the Bylaws and Procedures of the Marine Corps League.
 2. Individuals who are serving or who have served in other branches of the Armed Forces of the United States must have served honorably.
 3. Individuals applying for Associate membership must have reached the statutory minimum age for enlistment into the United States Marine Corps or the United States Marine Corps Reserve prior to being enrolled as an Associate member.
- c) **HONORARY AND LIFE MEMBER** - Honorary and Life membership shall be available under the conditions set forth in the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

SECTION 305 - MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION.

- a) Any person eligible for membership in the Marine Corps League under the provisions of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures may initiate application for membership by completing a standard application form, to include the signature, and presenting the application to a sponsoring member of the Detachment with all required dues and fees.
- b) (b) All regular members and associate members with prior military service shall provide proof of honorable service as specified in Article III, Section 300(a). Proof of service shall be reviewed and verified by no less than two (2) members of the Board of Trustees and shall be returned to the applicant after verification. Each verifying member of the Board shall sign their name and record their office on the Enlistment Papers and the Detachment Paymaster shall record the same in the Detachment log of new members.
- c) At no time should the Detachment retain any applicant's verification of honorable service unless directed to do so in accordance with the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.
- d) All membership application forms, dues, and fees shall be turned into the Detachment Officer responsible for accepting membership applications no later than the next Detachment regular meeting.
- e) Application for membership will be accepted and processed in accordance with the provisions contained in the Detachment Bylaws, Department Bylaws, and the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures Manual.

SECTION 310 — DUES. The annual dues of the Detachment will be determined by the membership at the meeting each year immediately following the election of officers (Annual Meeting). If a change in dues is deemed necessary, the Detachment Board of Trustees will present its recommended dues rate at this regular meeting. If changes are approved, the changes will be noted on the "Report of Officer's Installation" when the officers are installed.

SECTION 315 - DELINQUENT MEMBER. A member will be identified as delinquent whenever the member's dues are not paid and transmitted on or before September 1st of each year.

- a) Such members will be retained in the delinquent status for a maximum of one (1) year, during which time, the members may erase this status by making payment of all dues in the arrears and all dues current and provided that the member is not indebted to the Detachment, the Department of Alabama, or National Headquarters.
- b) Should the affected member remain in the delinquent status in excess of one (1) year, such members will be dropped from all membership rolls. The good standing status of such members

will be restored only through the processing of a standard new application and dues as established by the procedures of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

- c) "Delinquent" members shall have no voice in the transaction of the Detachment business and shall not be included in determining a quorum.⁴

ARTICLE FOUR

MEETINGS

SECTION 400 - REGULAR MEETINGS. Regular monthly meetings of the Detachment will be held on the third Thursday of each month at 1800. Notice of the meeting will be given to the members by the Detachment Adjutant or their designee by newsletter, mail, e-mail, or telephone, at least two (2) days in advance of the meeting. If the regular monthly meeting date falls on a holiday or for some other reason cannot be held on that date, the Board of Trustees, by the majority vote, may select some other day in the month for the meeting with the same requirements of the notice to be given to the members.

- a) The Detachment Bylaws, Department Bylaws, and the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures shall govern the procedure and conduct of the Detachment meetings. Parliamentary reference for all meetings of the Detachment shall be Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.
- b) The Detachment Charter or copy, the National Colors, and a Bible should be displayed at all regular meetings.
- c) A sign-in roster will be maintained for each meeting, listing the names of all members attending the meeting. Each member is required to sign-in their own names in order to be accredited for attending that meeting. In no event shall a member present sign-in another member that is not present.

SECTION 405 - ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the Corporation will be held during the month of January and at this meeting, the officers (Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, and Judge Advocate) will be elected, and such other business will be conducted as may be brought before the Detachment. The election of officers will require a majority vote of members present. A date for installation of the new officers will be announced at this annual meeting and shall be held no later than the last day of the month subsequent to the election. The annual dues will be reviewed and approved by majority vote.

SECTION 410 - SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Commandant or the Senior Vice Commandant, in the absence of the Commandant. It will be the duty of the

Commandant to call a special meeting whenever he is requested in writing to do so by six (6) or more members. Notice of a special meeting will be given to the membership by mail, email, or telephone, as set forth in Section 400 of this Article.

SECTION 415 — QUORUM. During the regular monthly meetings, at least two (2) Board of Trustees members and three (3) regular members of the Detachment must be present to constitute a quorum. A majority of the members present at any meeting will be necessary for the adoption of any matter voted upon by the members, except as noted in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE FIVE

OFFICERS

SECTION 500 — OFFICERS. The Detachment will have such elected and appointed officers as required by Article Eight (VIII) of the National Bylaws. The Detachment must elect a Commandant, a Senior Vice Commandant, a Junior Vice Commandant, and a Judge Advocate. Each of the aforesaid officers shall be a regular member in good standing and shall be elected for a term of one (1) year and may stand for re-election for one (1) additional consecutive term. With the approval of the Board of Trustees, the Commandant will appoint a Chaplain, Sergeant at Arms, Adjutant, Paymaster or an Adjutant/Paymaster and any other officers that are needed to fulfill the need of the Detachment. Appointed officers may be regular members or associate members in good standing. An appointed officer may be removed or replaced at any time from their office by recommendation of the Commandant and approval of the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 505 - ANNUAL ELECTIONS

- a) The annual election of officers shall be conducted at the January meeting and the incoming officers shall be installed no later than the end of the subsequent month.
- b) The Commandant shall appoint a committee of three (3) members during the preceding November meeting, to act as the Nominating Committee. This committee shall be chaired by the Junior Vice Commandant, who shall have no nominating powers. The Nominating Committee shall not include presently serving elected officers. The nominating Committee may only recommend one (1) nominee for each of the four positions required. The nominating committee must make their recommendations for the slate of elected officers at the December meeting.
- c) Nominations for each elected office may also be made from the floor during the January meeting.

- d) All nominees must be present at the election, unless absent with an approved excuse, and indicated if they will serve. In the event a nominee is absent, acceptance must be in writing prior to the elections. All nominees must further be in "Good Standing" and must have attended at least sixty-six percent (66%) of the previous year's meetings, or have valid excuses (approved by the Trustees) to be eligible for election to office.
- e) When vacancies occur within the four elected officers, procedures in Section 215 of the National By-Laws will be followed. The order of succession to the office of Commandant shall be (1) Senior Vice Commandant, and (2) Junior Vice Commandant. In the event of vacancies on the Board of Trustees, the Commandant, with the advice and consent of the remaining Board members, shall appoint a successor to fill the remaining unexpired term of office. In addition to death, resignation, or incapacitation, a vacancy will occur through failure to attend two consecutive officially called meetings of the Board of Trustees or failure to attend two consecutive regularly scheduled Detachment meetings, unless approved by the Commandant. In each case, the Judge Advocate must remain as the Judge Advocate.

SECTION 510 - DUTIES OF OFFICERS. In addition to the specific duties of the individual officers, as hereinafter stated, it shall be the duty of each officer to acquire a working knowledge of the Detachment Bylaws. The specific duties of the Detachment officers shall be:

- a) DETACHMENT COMMANDANT
 1. To preside at all meetings of the Detachment and the Board of Trustees.
 2. Direct the affairs of the Detachment as prescribed by the Board of Trustees.
 3. Call meetings of the Board of Trustees and meetings of the Detachment as required by these Bylaws.
 4. Appoint committees and liaisons as deemed necessary, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees; however, the Marine of the Year Committee shall be as provided as in Article IX, Section 910 of these Bylaws.
 5. The Commandant will be a member of all committees, ex-officio.
 6. He will decide all questions of order subject to an appeal of the Detachment Judge Advocate.
 7. Observe and enforce the observance of the Detachment Bylaws, the Department Bylaws, as well as the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League, including the current version of the Uniform Code.

8. Direct to all officers and members of the Detachment such orders as are not in conflict with the Detachment Bylaws, Department Bylaws, and/or the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League, including the current version of the Uniform Code.
- b) SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT shall give assistance to the Detachment Commandant and will, in the absence or illness of the Commandant, perform the duties of the Commandant. He is charged with the implementation of a training program of Detachment officers and staff for the proper performance of their duties in order to increase the effective and efficient conduct of the Detachment. He will also perform additional duties as delegated by the Commandant or the Board of Trustees.
- c) JUNIOR VICE COMMANDANT will create and promulgate such membership incentives and programs as to produce continuous and enthusiastic membership growth. He will assist the Commandant in the discharge of his official duties and will assume the duties of the Commandant in the absence or illness of the Commandant and Senior Vice Commandant. He will be responsible for establishing a meeting place for the monthly meetings, and for entertainment and parties of the Detachment.
- d) JUDGE ADVOCATE will interpret the Bylaws of this Detachment, Department, and the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League. He shall advise, construe, counsel, and render opinions of Law and Procedure to the Commandant and the Board of Trustees. He will be available to all Detachment officers and committees for advice and counsel pertaining to their duties and responsibilities within the scope of the Bylaws of this Detachment, Department, and the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League. The Judge Advocate must be knowledgeable and familiar with Chapter Nine of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures Manual.
- e) ADJUTANT will keep completed records of the proceedings of the Detachment and all meetings. He will conduct the correspondence and keep records of the Detachment, including lists of names, addresses, and previous records of members. He will notify the Commandant and members of meetings as set forth in Article Four. He shall read or make available copies of all communications and documents and make the proper record of same and perform such duties that may be necessary for the proper handling of the business incident to his office. He shall record and maintain for posterity a full and complete account of all Detachment business pertaining to his duties as Adjutant. The Adjutant shall perform other duties required by these Bylaws or as may be required by the Board of Trustees.

- f) PAYMASTER will receive and deposit all funds of the Detachment in the bank or banks designated by the Board of Trustees. He will produce all books, vouchers, and papers called for or required for the proper audit of his accounts. He will answer for all money received by him belonging to the Detachment, and give his receipt for same. He shall have the bank book and ledger at all meetings for verification and submit a written report of the Detachment's current assets and debts. All checks written on the Detachment's account must have one (1) signature; as a minimum, the Paymaster and the Detachment Commandant should be listed on the bank account. The Paymaster will submit transmittals on new memberships and renewals in a timely basis to the Department Paymaster. The Paymaster will perform other duties required by these Bylaws or as may be required by the Board of Trustees. The Commandant will appoint a committee that shall conduct and audit of all books, vouchers, and papers at least once per year as directed by the Commandant or when a new Paymaster is appointed. The Paymaster will surrender to their duly appointed successor all Detachment books, records, codes, passwords, or other property with which their office is charged.
- g) CHAPLAIN shall conduct all devotional exercises at Detachment meetings and shall contact all Detachment members and family and friends sick or in distress and maintain a roster of such. He shall be responsible for the timely submission of Death Notices for Detachment members to the proper National authority as directed by the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. He shall perform such other duties as may be required of him, including the visiting of the sick, distressed, and homebound.
- h) SERGEANT AT ARMS will assist the Commandant in keeping order during Detachment meetings. He will see that no one but members of the Marine Corps League and authorized guests are admitted to the meetings of the Detachment. He will be responsible for the proper arrangement of the Detachment quarters for all meetings of the Detachment and securing the property of the Detachment. The Sergeant at Arms will perform other duties as required.
- i) JUNIOR PAST COMMANDANT shall be the immediate past Commandant of the Detachment and shall be a full voting member of the Board of Trustees, contributing generously and impartially from past experience as to the best interests of the Detachment. He shall preside at all meetings of the past Commandants of the Detachment as necessary.
- j) OTHER DETACHMENT OFFICERS not specifically outlined herein shall have duties as directed by the Commandant or Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE SIX BOARD

OF TRUSTEES

SECTION 600 — POWERS. The powers of the Detachment will be exercised in the best interest of this Detachment and the Marine Corps League by a Board of Trustees, within the scope of the Bylaws of this Detachment. The business and property of the Detachment will be conducted and controlled by the Board of Trustees.

SECTION 605 - COMPOSITION. The Board of Trustees will consist of the following elected officers of the Detachment: Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, Judge Advocate, and the Jr. Past Commandant of the Detachment.

SECTION 610 - MEETINGS. The Board of Trustees shall meet at least quarterly. A special meeting of the Board of Trustees may be called by any member of the Board. There must be three (3) or more members present to conduct a meeting.

SECTION 615 - EXPENSES.

- a) DELEGATION EXPENSES. - The Detachment shall reimburse the expenses incurred by the Detachment Commandant or his or her authorized representative in attending the Department Convention, Division Conference, Mid-Winter, and National Convention, if not held locally, in an effort to promote the Detachment throughout the League. The expenses to be reimbursed and rate of reimbursement shall be determined by the Board prior to each event annually.
- b) MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES. - The Board of Trustees shall have the authority to incur expenses up to the amount of \$500.00 and pay such expenses prior to the next regular meeting of the Detachment if necessary. A majority vote of the Board of Trustees is necessary to incur and pay the expenses, and the expense shall be reported at the next regular meeting of the Detachment.

ARTICLE SEVEN

DETACHMENT STAFF

SECTION 700 - COMPOSITION. The Detachment Staff shall consist of the Detachment Board of Trustees, all appointed Detachment Officers and Liaisons, Detachment Committee Chairs, and Past Detachment Commandants, being identified collectively as staff officers and individually as a staff officer.

SECTION 705 - POWERS. The power and authority of the Detachment Staff shall be the same as that of the Board of Trustees except that all appointed Detachment Officers and Liaisons, Detachment Committee Chairs, and Past Detachment Commandants (excluding the Jr. Past Commandant) shall have

no vote and shall not be considered in determining a quorum for any Detachment Board of Trustees meeting.

SECTION 710 - DUTIES. The Staff shall acquire a working knowledge of the Detachment Bylaws in order to assist the Detachment Board of Trustees in their duties and to foster enthusiastic growth within the Detachment.

SECTION 715 - MEETINGS.

- a) REGULAR MEETINGS (Pre Detachment Meeting). - The Detachment Staff shall hold a Pre meeting one (1) time monthly on the Monday of the week of the Detachment regular monthly meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to establish and monitor the ongoing proceedings and events of the Detachment and to ensure the efficient conduct of Detachment business. Reports of all Officers, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons shall be given during the course of the meeting.
- b) SPECIAL MEETINGS. — Twice each year, the Detachment Staff shall hold a special meeting in order to plan and monitor the annual calendar and budget for the Detachment.
 - 1. The "Annual Plan" meeting of the Detachment Staff shall be held in the period between the Election and Installation of Officers and shall include the production of an annual calendar and budget for the submission to and approval of the members at the regular Detachment meeting immediately following the Installation of Officers.
 - 2. The 'Mid-year Plan' meeting of the Detachment Staff shall be held in July of each year and shall include a review of the annual calendar and budget for additions and amendments as deemed necessary. Any changes to the Detachment budget resulting in an increase in a line-item expense, requires the submission of the increased line item to and approval of the membership.

ARTICLE EIGHT

CONTRACTS

SECTION 800 - CONTRACTING AUTHORITY. No officer, employee, committee chair, or member of the Detachment shall enter into or sign any contract or agreement, for the purpose of binding the Detachment, without first submitting such contract or agreement to the Detachment Judge Advocate, for his consideration and with the Detachment Commandant's approval.

All documents shall then be forwarded to the entire Board of Trustees. The Detachment Board of Trustees thereafter, by a majority vote, may accept or reject, in whole or in part, the contract or

agreement submitted to it. All contracts or agreements consummated in the name of the Detachment shall require the signature of the Detachment Commandant and Detachment Judge Advocate.

ARTICLE NINE

AWARDS

SECTION 900 — PURPOSE. A vital function for the membership of this Detachment is to recognize deserving members. The National Administrative Procedures outline various awards and criteria for eligibility. The Detachment is encouraged to recognize its members and forward appropriate documentation for awards.

SECTION 905 — COMMITTEE. The Commandant will establish an awards committee, and this committee will have the responsibility of recommending deserving Detachment members, with the Commandant's approval, for Detachment, Department, or National Awards. The committee shall be charged with recommending nominees for awards as necessary throughout the year, culminating in the presentation of awards during the Detachment's annual Awards Ceremony, which takes place on the same evening as the installation of officers. The committee shall have a chair and at least three (3) other members.

SECTION 910 - MARINE OF THE YEAR. The Detachment Marine of the Year (MOY) Committee shall consist of all prior Detachment Marine of the Year recipients. The most recent Marine of the Year shall serve as the committee chair, and the committee shall be charged with the selection of the Detachment's Marine of the Year. The recipient shall be a Detachment Regular member in good standing. Beginning immediately and for five (5) years hereafter, the committee shall also be charged with the selection of the Detachment Associate Member of the Year (AMOY), to be selected from the Detachment's Associate members in good standing. At the end of the five (5) year period, the Detachment shall create an Associate Member of the Year (AMOY) Committee with comparable composition and function as the MOY committee. The MOY and AMOY recipients shall be named at the Detachment's annual Awards Ceremony as in Section 905 above.

ARTICLE TEN

COMMITTEES

SECTION 1000 - STANDING COMMITTEES (If deemed by Board of Trustees)

- a) BYLAWS COMMITTEE purpose is to present a slate of recommendations for change to the Detachment Bylaws. The Judge Advocate may review and provide recommendations for changes in lieu of forming a committee if the changes are deemed to be minimal with little objectivity

required. If a committee is needed the Judge Advocate will preside as the Chairman with three to four members as participants. All recommendations for change should be emailed to the Commandant prior to the pre-Detachment regular meeting for discussion and approval. If approved these changes are to be presented at the upcoming Detachment regular meeting for consideration. If major non-administrative changes are presented to the membership a waiting period until the next Detachment regular meeting is needed before a vote to accept/reject is brought forward. If only a few minor changes are presented a vote to accept them is brought forward at the same regular meeting. If approved the Bylaws are updated per the changes, the date of the regular Detachment meeting approval is inserted, the date when the bylaws will be incorporated is inserted, and the hard copy is signed by the detachment Commandant and Judge Advocate. The approved hard copy is scanned as a PDF file type and forwarded to the acting Judge Advocate Department of Alabama to replace the previous Detachment #1427 Bylaws version on the website.

- b) AMERICANISM COMMITTEE shall be charged with the production and submission of an Americanism Scrapbook each year in accordance with the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.
- c) BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE shall ensure that all deceased Marines in the local area shall receive a proper visitation by Detachment members in order to render final respects for our fallen comrade. The coverage area for visitations and composition of the committee shall be determined by the Committee Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees.
- d) BIRTHDAY BALL COMMITTEE is charged annually with creating and implementing plans to properly commemorate the founding of the United States Marine Corps, 10 November 1775. The Committee should coordinate with all local Marine organizations as necessary in order to ensure a successful Birthday Ball for the Marines and members of the Detachment. Recommendations for any ticket prices shall be submitted to the membership for approval.
- e) FLAG DAY COMMITTEE shall ensure that Flag Day, a National Holiday each 14 June, is properly commemorated through an appropriate public service, either independently or in conjunction with other local veterans and service organizations, public officials, and community members.
- f) HISTORICAL COMMITTEE shall, under the direction of the Board of Trustees, assemble and maintain a record of the LCpl Jonathan L. Smith Detachment's history and achievements, including, but not limited to, awards, member recognition, and community involvement.

- g) HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE shall take such actions necessary to ensure a welcoming environment at Detachment events, including but not limited to, the regular meetings of the Detachments. The committee duties include, but are not limited to securing refreshments prior to each regular meeting via volunteers, sponsors, or committee purchase. The committee should be composed of an adequate number of members to welcome new members and guests at each meeting and to provide the same with all means necessary to feel welcome.
- h) INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS COMMITTEE shall be responsible for the production of the Detachment's annual Installation of Officers and Awards Banquet to be held after the elections in January and before the end of February. The committee shall provide for a suitable Installing Officer, dinner, ceremony, and invited guests under the guidance of the Commandant and Board of Trustees.
- i) LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE shall study all legislation of benefit to Veterans at the local, state, and national level and submit recommendations to be submitted to the membership concerning the advisability of endorsing support or urging rejection of pending legislation concerning Veterans' affairs. The committee, with the chair deemed the Detachment Legislative Officer, shall study and develop resolutions as deemed necessary with regards to legislation beneficial to the protection of the Nation, the United States Marine Corps, and Veterans at the local, state, and national level and submit the same as approved by the Detachment membership.
- j) NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE shall be responsible for the editing and printing of the Detachment regular monthly publication, "The Smitty", and take the steps necessary to publish and mail the newsletter no later than the week prior to the regular monthly meeting. The committee shall be responsible for soliciting any advertising for the publication and, with the consent of the Board of Trustees, shall set advertising rates. The committee shall also maintain the mailing list for the newsletter to include the National elected officers, the NVC Southeast Division, the Department of Alabama Commandant, and the Commandant of each Detachment within the Department of Alabama. Each year, the committee shall submit the newsletter for consideration in the National Newsletter Competition.
- k) PICNIC COMMITTEE shall be responsible for producing the Detachment's annual family picnic in September of each year, normally on the weekend of the Detachment's regular meeting. The committee shall fall under the guidance of the Detachment Junior Vice Commandant as a membership function. The committee shall be responsible for the location, composition, and

activities of the day, including food, beverages, events, and awards, with the approval of Board of Trustees.

- l) PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE. with the committee chair deemed the Detachment Public Relations Officer, shall serve as the Public Relations and Press Officer of the Detachment and shall utilize all means necessary to properly transmit the activities of the Detachment within the community, including press releases, interviews, Facebook accounts, and other means available to promote the Detachment.
- m) RECRUITING/RETENTION COMMITTEE shall, under the guidance of the Junior Vice Commandant, maintain and monitor the membership levels of the Detachment. The committee shall be responsible for maintaining the current membership roster and reporting on new members and retention levels during the regular monthly meetings. The committee shall also monitor delinquent members on the Detachment roster in order to keep such members to a minimum with the advice and support of the Board of Trustees and the general membership.
- n) SERVICE OFFICER COMMITTEE shall become acquainted with Federal and local laws and with their interpretation and application within the framework of service to veterans. The committee chair shall be deemed the Detachment Service Officer and, with the support of the committee, shall assist Marine veterans, and all military veterans upon request, and their dependents, widows or widowers, in securing benefits provided by laws and regulations and be in charge of all Veterans Administration activities of the Detachment. The committee shall regularly report on issues and topics of importance to Marine veterans, their families, widows, widowers, and dependents, as well as the veteran's community in general.
- o) ROADBLOCK COMMITTEE shall be responsible for the coordination of the Detachment's Roadblock Fundraisers. Under the guidance of the Board of Trustees, roadblocks shall be held each year. The committee shall be responsible for selecting locations, securing any permits necessary, and coordinating with all members in order to ensure a successful fundraising and promotion for the League and the Detachment.
- p) SHIPS STORE COMMITTEE shall, under the guidance of the Detachment Quartermaster, be responsible for the operation of the Detachment Ships Store, including the purchase of Marine Corps League uniforms and supplies and such other merchandise as deemed appropriate for sale to Detachment members.
- q) STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE shall assess the current status of the Detachment with regards to both the local and national environment, create three (3) and five (5) year goals for

Detachment programs and growth, and develop actionable plans in order to achieve the desired goals. Their findings shall be reported to the Board of Trustees no later than the Annual Plan meeting and submitted to the membership for approval.

- r) TOYS FOR TOTS COMMITTEE shall coordinate the Detachment's Toys for Tots program under the guidelines of the National Toys for Tots Foundation in order to provide an effective supporting arm for the program in our service area. The Toys for Tots Committee Chairman must attend National Training in Virginia at least every three (3) years or when a new Coordinator is appointed by 1 April.
- s) TRAILER COMMITTEE. N/A.
- t) VETERANS ADMINISTRATION VOLUNTEER SERVICE (VAVS) COMMITTEE shall consist of one representative appointed by the Detachment Commandant and deputies as deemed necessary by the Commandant and Board of Trustees. The committee shall be charged with maintaining close contact with the Decatur VA facility in order to communicate any needs and concerns that the Detachment may be able to address, specifically with regards to any Marines in need, and report the same to the Detachment on a regular basis. The committee is also charged with coordinating with the VA in order to facilitate any visits deemed necessary by the committee and approved by the membership and should compile a comprehensive VAVS program report for submission to National for Detachment recognition.
- u) WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE shall prepare and present a financial program and budget for the conduct of affairs and normal business of the Detachment for the upcoming year and shall make recommendations regarding ways and means of increasing the funds of the Detachment.
- v) WEB SERGEANT COMMITTEE shall be charged with the creation and upkeep of the Detachment's website in order to provide proper and timely information to Detachment members and the public. The committee, with the chair deemed the Detachment Web Sergeant, shall also be responsible for updating information on the Detachment's page on the National website.
- w) SHOOTING TEAM COMMITTEE shall be charged with the creation and continuance of the Detachment's competitive shooting team. The committee will establish and make known the date, time, and location of each shooting activity and will be responsible for reporting each member's score to the National Shooting Team Committee with a postmark no later than October 31st annually.

SECTION 1005 - SPECIAL COMMITTEES

(a) CONVENTION/CONFERENCE COMMITTEE shall be appointed by the Commandant as necessary to coordinate and conduct all Conventions and Conferences that the Detachment shall undertake. It is specifically charged with producing the Annual Convention of the Department of Alabama when it is the Detachment's responsibility.

(b) NOMINATING COMMITTEE will be appointed by the Commandant at least two (2) months prior to the annual meeting, for the purpose of presenting a slate of elected officers at the annual meeting. The findings of the committee shall be presented at the meeting immediately prior to the annual meeting in December. Additional nominations from the floor may be made at the annual meeting in January. Each nominee shall be a regular member in good standing in the Marine Corps League at the time of their nomination. Each nominee, when called upon, shall rise, if not restricted by physical impairment, and state to the Chair that if elected, they will accept the office and serve loyally, faithfully, and to the best of their ability during the term to which elected.

(c) FINANCIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE shall be appointed by the Commandant as necessary to coordinate and conduct all Financial Audits. The Committee will consist of three members of the Detachment with the Detachment Junior Vice Commandant as Audit Committee Chairman.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

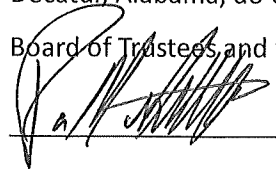
AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1100 - EFFECTIVE DATE. These Bylaws shall become effective upon approval of a majority of members present, when presented to the members at a regular monthly meeting.

SECTION 1105 - AMENDMENTS. These Bylaws may be amended, revised, replaced, or altered in whole or in part by any regular or special meeting of the Detachment by a majority of the members present and voting, provided such action has been announced in the calling and notice of such meeting.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Officers of the LCpl Jonathan L. Smith Detachment #1427, Marine Corps League, Decatur, Alabama, do certify that the Bylaws as contained herein were updated and approved by the Board of Trustees and the members present at the regular Detachment meeting of 19 December, 2024.



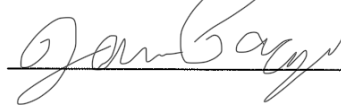
Ray Gettler, Commandant



James Salmans, Judge Advocate

The LCPL Jonathan L. Smith Detachment 1427 Bylaws have been reviewed and are hereby approved this

16 day of JANUARY, 2025.



Jermaine Payne, Judge Advocate Department of Alabama