

**The American Legion
Arkansas Department
Executive Committee
Resolution**

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No.: 2020-1

Title: Cancellation of 2020 American Legion Department Convention In North Little Rock, Arkansas

Origin: Judge Advocate, Department Arkansas, Department Executive Committee

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 1 of the Department of Arkansas Constitution of The American Legion states the legislative body of the American Legion, Department of Arkansas, shall be the Department Convention to be held annually at a place to be fixed by the preceding Department convention four (4) years preceding;

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 1 of the Department Constitution of The American Legion allows for the Arkansas Department Executive Committee of The American Legion to change such location and time for sufficient reasons appearing in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, The United States of America and the world in general are currently experiencing a pandemic associated with the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) therefore causing communities, cities, states and the federal government to enact unprecedented emergency actions in order to contain and combat the impact and risks of spreading the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Upon the recommendations of the United States President, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) the emergency actions taken include, but are not limited to, restriction of mass gathering sizes, restrictions on unnecessary travel, closure of restaurants and other public gathering spaces, implementation of “social distancing” guidelines and an overall emphasis on personal hygiene and virus/germ abatement actions; and

WHEREAS, Under the Resolution #3 of 2020, as passed by National Executive Committee, American Legion; and

WHEREAS, The governor of the State of Arkansas declared in Executive Order #20-13 on April 4, 2020 that the State of Arkansas is in a public health emergency as a result of the COVID-19 requiring numerous actions to follow including that all people maintain safe social distancing, stay at home whenever possible and that hotels are used only for lodging as needed; and

WHEREAS, A gathering of the members of The American Legion at the Department Convention in North Little Rock Arkansas would be in conflict with the imposed restrictions set by local and federal authorities and therefore place our members at an unnecessary health, safety and medical risk; and

WHEREAS, The Department Executive Committee has thoroughly discussed the situation, weighed all options, and determined that the course of action herein recommended is the correct and prudent course for The American Legion Department of Arkansas at this time; and

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WHEREAS, The Chairman of the Department Convention Committee and the Chairman of Department Finance Committee recommend approval of this resolution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Department Arkansas Executive Committee of The American Legion, by voice tele-conference vote pursuant of the April 16, 2020 conference call of Department Executive Committee under Motion that was passed and, That due to the uncertainty of the duration of the disease known as Coronavirus (COVID-19), the numerous government regulations being enforced to contain it and concern for the safety of all members of the American Legion Family, the American Legion Department Executive Committee (DEC) agrees that present circumstances constitute sufficient reasons to cancel the, 102nd, 2020 American Legion Department Arkansas Convention; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That due to these serious and sufficient reasons, the American Legion Department Arkansas would not be able to hold Annual Election of Officers for Department Level, and that District Officers elected in each ; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all Posts of Department of Arkansas could be allowed to hold their annual elections according to their individual Constitution and Bylaws or by Post Resolution also cancel their Post elections for the 2020 year, be it further

RESOLVED, That all Department Officers and District Commanders elected and appointed continue serving in their current positions until the close of the next Department Convention scheduled in N. Little Rock, Arkansas from 17-21 June 2021; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all Department commission and/or committee chairpersons and the current commission and committee members continue serving in their current positions until they resign or are either reassigned or reappointed at a time to be determined by the Department Arkansas Executive Committee; and, be it further

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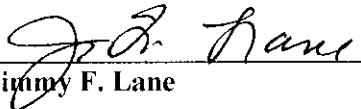
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RESOLVED, That due to numerous health and safety reasons and needs of our members, the American Legion Department Arkansas Executive Committee strongly urges that the Department Sons of The American Legion, the Department Arkansas American Legion Auxiliary and Department Arkansas Legion Riders follow a similar course of action, to-wit: (1) cancel their 2020 conventions and elections; and (2) maintain the status quo of their officers until next year; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That due to the community of North Little Rock, Arkansas the current contract hotel to wit Wyndham Riverfront Hotel, accommodating the American Legion 2020 Department Convention's cancellation decision in such a prompt manner without penalty or other financial cost to The American Legion Department of Arkansas Executive Committee is hereby awarding the 2025 Convention to the Community of N. Little Rock and the Wyndham Riverfront Hotel.

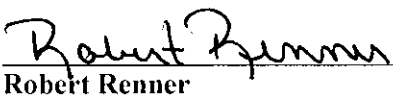
Judge Advocate Department Arkansas


Jimmy F. Lane

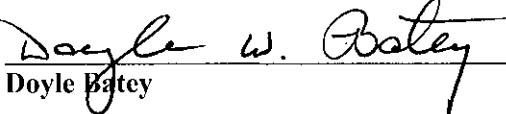
Chairman Resolutions Committee Department Arkansas


Jimmy F. Lane

Department Arkansas Adjutant


Robert Renner

Department Arkansas Commander


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