



Department of Hawaii General Orders # 003
September 23, 2021

Series 2021-2022

1. Commanders Moment

Aloha Comrades! Time is flying by as we leave the 1st Quarter of this Year behind us. Much work remains to be done, and more opportunities exist than ever before to make a difference in the lives of our Veterans. After the membership scrub by National and other events, you may not realize we have 500 less members from 3 months ago to count on. Without members we have no voice to influence legislation and we have fewer resources to take care of our Veterans. From comradeship, to a helping hand or helping others in need - let's do our part.

- Start by looking at all your members, especially those with expired memberships or those expiring before the end of the year.
 - Reach out to them.
 - Find out how they're doing during these challenging times.
 - Encourage them to stay current, become lifetime members and attend our meetings or events.
 - Be creative. We've only tapped into a tiny percentage of combat Veterans who live on our islands.
 - Be visible. Wear your VFW clothing and be open to people asking you for help keep your business cards and applications handy and know where to refer them if needed.
- Yes, these are challenging times, but they are also times of great opportunity. Help us make the needed changes keeping us relevant, attentive to other's needs, and remaining a strong voice for change. Our Department leadership team is here to assist you making it as easy as possible for your Post success. Stay up-to-date with our leadership team, these General Orders and all By-Law requirements, and what's happening in your community. It takes each of us to make a better world for all of us, and when we do so, **we are....**

United in Aloha

Administrative:

2. Communications/Correspondence Reminder. In these challenging times and our busy lives, effective communications are essential. Our Department HQ communicates well with each other and will do what we can to make it easier for you to do your jobs. In turn, we ask you to



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acknowledge our emails and unless otherwise agreed upon, please include the following personnel in your correspondence:

- a. **Your HQ Team.** State Commander, State Adjutant, Chief of Staff, Quartermaster, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander.
- b. **National Reports.** State Commander, State Adjutant and Chief of Staff will be cc'd on all reports sent to National or sent for further distribution.

3. APPOINTMENTS Update. National By-Laws stipulate that elected and appointed officers shall not assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been submitted to and reviewed by the office of State Adjutant. (Refer to General Order # 001)

- a. The following **National Committee appointment is declared null and void.**

National Veterans and Military Support	Joseph Bragg	Post 12138
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- b. Subject to National Approval the following **National Committee appointment is hereby made:**

National Veterans and Military Support	Rodney Boucher	Post 12138
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- c. Subject to National Approval; the following **Unpaid National appointments are hereby made:**

National Deputy Chief of Staff	Ronald Lockwood	Post 8616
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Assistant Inspector General	Sean Mattimoe	Post 970
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Special Aide-de-Camp

Kimberly Blaum	Post 3855
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Paul Schoener	Post 3859
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Polumoe Sutoa	Post 3391
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Larry Kniffin	Post 12122
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Juan Alcon	Post 3870
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National Aide-de-Camp

Wayne Yoshioka	Post 8616
Timothy Wong	Post 2875
Sherman Willis	Post 1540
Lynn Gernert	Post 2875
Penny Kalua	Post 10276
Patsy Takemura	Post 10276

4. Department Council of Administration. Unchanged from GO #2. Upcoming dates are: **December 4, 2021** and **February 12, 2022**, and **June 11, 2022**. At least one member of the leadership team of **every post** (Commander, SVC, JVC) is expected to attend COAs in person or virtually. Check out our Department website www.vfw-dept-hi.org and these GOs for more details.

5. Posts are Responsible to Stay in Compliance with all Directives. VFW Leaders are reminded of their responsibilities to Department and National for timely payment of fees, other financial obligations, and all administrative requirements. Refer to GO#2. Keep current or risk your charter being revoked. Timely submission of Election and Trustee Audit Reports and all taxes (990s and DCCA). Anyone handling money must be bonded. Your monthly meetings are where decisions are made for the good of the organization. You must have minutes to record your decisions. Reread GO#2.

a. Post Inspections. Chief Inspector Sean Mattimoe (Post 970) is putting together a Post inspection date schedule. Contact him at 808- 256-2546. Initial inspection should be completed by December 31, 2021. Posts that were not inspected last year have our highest priority. Schedule your inspection as soon as possible, so discrepancies can be addressed. For exact areas to be inspected and the explanations for each category to best prepare. Go to VFW.org at https://vfworg-cdn.azureedge.net/-/media/VFWSite/Files/MY_VFW/Training-and-Support/Member-and-Officer-Training/PostInspectionPackageFillable.pdf and the Inspection SOP on our Department website.



b. Parliamentary Procedures. Look for upcoming training. Headquarters has identified a National Parliamentarian. His name is Joshua Schreck. Look for upcoming training. These procedures help meetings move along and manage friction that may arise in the deliberations. We can all improve here.

6. Upcoming Opportunities. Throughout the year events occur. Participate where possible.

Informational Shows & Interviews. Insights on PBS Hawaii is hosting a panel on 11 Nov 2021 from 7:30 pm -8:30 pm to discuss top Veteran issues/concerns to inform the community and Veterans of what's available and how they can help. Look for these types of opportunities to inform, educate, and encourage partnerships.

7. Membership.

1. Latest. As of September 23, 2021 The Department of Hawaii is at 88.52 %, 495 members short of reaching 100%.

2. Commander Incentives:

a. New/Reinstate. October's Commanders incentive is for every new and reinstated member a Post recruits the post will receive five dollars (\$5.00).

b. 25 New/Reinstates. Any Post that increases their new and reinstated membership by 25 members by December 31, 2021 will receive 150.00 (one hundred fifty dollars)

8. Programs.

1. Voice of Democracy: This year's theme is "America: Where do we go from here?" Program deadline for **submission** to Department is **December 4, 2021**. At least one entry is needed for All-State and All-American program qualification. Post with several entries may submit them to the Department Chair for distribution to other Posts

2. Patriots Pen: This year's theme is "How can I be a good American?" At least one entry is needed for All-State and All-American program qualification. Post with several entries may submit them to the Department Chair for distribution to other Posts Program deadline for **submission** to Department is **December 4, 2021**.

3. Citizenship Teacher of the Year



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4. Buddy Poppy

Buddy Poppies must be **ordered** through the Department for **\$115.00 per thousand** poppies ordered. Order form is on the Department Website.

5. Community Service:

- a. Community Service Grants Applications** will be available on the National website starting October 1, 2021. All Posts are encouraged to apply for this grant as soon as possible. This is a great way to fund programs you are involved in for your community. This opportunity is also open to all VFW Auxiliaries.
- b. Deadline for reporting** of Community Service Total Impact (Hours and \$ Donated) for the first administrative reporting period is **October 16, 2021**.

Latest Department Calendar:

2021

September, 27-29 2021	Virtual Fall Legislative Conference
October 7-10, 2021	Junior Vice Commander Conference
October 11, 2021	Membership Monday Training
October 9, 2021	Start of Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan 2001
October 16, 2021	Community Service Total impact report due to Department
October 18, 2021	Recognition of Women in Military Service
November 4-7, 2021	Western Conference Sparks, Nevada
November 8, 2021	Membership Monday Training
November 11, 2021	Veterans Day Ceremonies
December 4, 2021	Department Council of Administration 0915 at Oahu Veterans Center
December 4, 2021	Deadline for VOD/PP/Teachers entries to be Submitted to Department for judging
December 6-10, 2021	Honor Flight to Oahu from NV
December 6, 2021	Membership Monday Training



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December 7, 2021

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day,
Parade at Waikiki

2021

January 10, 2022

Membership Monday Training

February 7, 2022

Membership Monday Training

February 11, 2022:

Homecoming

Commander Lewis & President Anzai

February 12, 2022

Department Council of Administration

0915 at Oahu Veterans Center

1100-1300 Dept VOD/PP Awards Luncheon

Feb 27- March 3, 2022

National Legislative Conference

Washington D.C.

March 7, 2022

Membership Monday Training

March 29, 2021

National Vietnam Veterans Day

Parade at Waikiki

April 11, 2022

Membership Monday Training

April 15, 2022

Community Service Total impact report due to
Department

May 1, 2022

Loyalty Day

May 9, 2022

Membership Monday Training

May 30, 2022

Memorial Day

June 6, 2022

Membership Monday Training

June 9-11, 2022

Department of Hawaii Annual Convention

Outrigger Reef Waikiki Beach Resort

July 16-21, 2022

VFW National Convention

Kansas City, Missouri

By Order of:

Debra Lewis
State Commander

OFFICIAL:



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S1 B A", is positioned above the name of the signatory.

George Barlett
State Adjutant