



# AMVETS

## Department of Ohio

### For Immediate Release

AMVETS Family,

I hope everyone is staying healthy during this trying time and that this letter finds you well. Our Department is adjusting to life in this unique time, and we are working hard to get through this intact and with our membership and posts as strong as ever.

It is with much regret that I am writing to inform our members that our State Executive Committee (SEC) has come to the difficult decision to cancel our June convention. The SEC met via teleconference over the weekend to discuss the convention and after deliberation and discussion, we felt it was in the best interest of our membership to cancel the 2020 convention so as to avoid putting any members at risk as we did not see a way to hold the convention and follow social distancing guidelines and protocols. The SEC voted to have all department officers stay in place through our convention in June 2021, and to have all District and Post officers remain in place as well. With that said, if any officer cannot or will not stay on in their current role and resigns, then the CB&L will be followed to fill that vacant office.

We have scheduled a finance committee meeting for May 16<sup>th</sup> so that we can prepare the 2020-2021 budget. At this time, the only physical attendees to that meeting will be members of the finance committee, however I will work with our Department staff to see if there is a way to stream this meeting so that any member who wishes to see the meeting has the opportunity to do so. Once the finance committee meets and prepares the budget, an SEC meeting will be convened to review and approve the budget for the upcoming year. Until that time, the Department will operate under the SEC approved proposed budget until it can be presented to our membership for its approval at our next convened meeting.

Our focus going forward is to remain the strongest Department in the country; we are working with District and Post leaders to keep the Posts informed about resources during this difficult time. We want to get our Posts back in operation as quickly as possible, and we are staying in touch with the AG and Governor's office to try and get this tough task accomplished. Please do not hesitate to contact Department headquarters if you have any questions.

Please continue the work that you are doing for our Veterans; this is our mission, and they will continue to be our focus.

Humbly yours in Service,

Andrew McElrath

Commander, AMVETS Department of Ohio