



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. I want to emphasize that we must stay vigilant in our precautions to protect our members and families and hope that each post is being proactive in that regard. I also want to encourage all our AMVETS family to stay tuned to the Department website and Facebook pages, as a lot of information and resources are being put out to help posts get through this crisis.

Some questions have been coming in regarding upcoming elections and post meetings; National Commander Jan Brown has stated that National will not look negatively on any post or department that is delayed with their elections due to COVID-19. With that being said, I would like to offer the following guidance: Our Department CB&L allows for electronic meetings to conduct business; therefore, it is encouraged that posts hold their April meetings electronically for 1st round nominations. Our Department staff is well versed at setting up these types of conference calls and can help posts, if necessary, to get this accomplished. In addition, I would encourage posts that are moving their May meetings to the end of the month, to put out a 30-day notice to members. This notice is required in the CB&L and would allow time to hopefully let the COVID-19 restrictions be lifted as well as allow time for the posts to reopen. At this time, elections for post officers CANNOT be held electronically; any questions regarding this should be directed to Department Judge Advocate Bob Driftmyer, Department Executive Director Don McCauley, or myself.

It has also been asked if a post can sell tickets or beer to customers picking up food orders. Regarding the tickets being sold while someone is picking up their food, the answer is no; there is no difference from members coming in, placing orders, and playing tickets while they wait for their food and coming in to have a drink. The posts are closed under an order by the State Governor to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus, and we should be complying with the order so we can get back to normal business as quickly as possible. The beer sales question has two answers; if you have a carry out license, yes, if you do not have a carry out license, no. Posts that are unaware of their carry out status, can find that information on their liquor license.

Lastly, for those who have asked, as of now, our June convention WILL proceed as scheduled and pre-registration will begin online on April 15. This could change based upon the COVID-19 restrictions, however, the Department leadership is proceeding with planning and preparing for our 75th Department Convention this June, and I hope to see everyone there and healthy. Stay vigilant and as always, if you need assistance, our headquarters staff is available to help.

Humbly yours in service,

Andrew McElrath

Commander, AMVETS Department of Ohio