



Department of Maryland Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

General Orders No. 1 – June 2025

These General Orders should be read at the first meeting following receipt before being filed by the Secretary:

1. Having been elected and installed as Department President of the Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Maryland, in accordance with the National Bylaws, I hereby accept command.
2. The Department Officers for the ensuing year have been elected, appointed and installed. All previous appointments are hereby declared null and void.
3. A Council of Administration Meeting was held at the Grand Hotel following the Installation of Officers for the purpose of approving the 2025-2026 Budget. District Presidents are members of the Department Council of Administration and are expected to attend all Council meetings. If a District President is unable to attend, the Senior or Junior Vice-President should represent their District at the Council meeting.
4. Auxiliaries that have not forwarded their Installation Reports to the Department must do so immediately. Send them to Department Secretary Libby DallaTezza at vfwauxsecretary4md@comcast.net or by mail to 1751 Keysville Road, So., Keymar, MD 21757. The report to National should be completed online by the Auxiliary Secretary; or, if you do not have the capability, the report can be sent to Libby to be entered.
5. In accordance with Section **810** of the National Bylaws, "Presidents on all levels shall, within thirty (30) days after installation into office, submit to the Commander of the corresponding unit of the VFW, the last quarterly audit, membership status report, and such additional reports as may be required."
6. Per Section **814C** of the National Bylaws: "It shall be the duty of the Trustees to see that the offices of the President and Treasurer are bonded with an indemnity company authorized by National Headquarters or the Department as surety in a sum at least double the amount of funds and value of the property for which, so far as can be anticipated, the President and Treasurer may be accountable. The amount shall be approved by the body and the bond premium paid from their funds. The Office of the President shall hold the original bond of both offices. A copy of both the President and Treasurer bond shall be incorporated into the minutes each year."

7. Per Section **814C (chart) 2nd Quarter**: The Quarterly Audit covering the months of April, May, and June 2025 shall be conducted during the month of July and performed with both the outgoing and incoming Treasurers and Trustees in accordance with Section **814A and 814B** of the National Bylaws. The Senior Trustee whose term expired shall serve as Chairman. A copy of the completed Audit Report must be sent to the Department Treasurer, Jackie Kimball, and a copy shall be incorporated in the Department Secretary's minutes. The Department Treasurer requests that a copy of the Bank Statement accompany each audit completed.
8. District Presidents are reminded that Annual Visitations to the Auxiliaries in their districts are essential to assure our Auxiliaries remain healthy and must be conducted. All Visits should be scheduled by October 1st. At the Visit, every question on the form must be answered and Visitation forms completed in triplicate with signatures of the Visiting Officer and Auxiliary President on each copy.
9. There will be one (1) **Department School of Instruction** held at Wells McComas Post 2678 on June 21st 2025 from 9:30am until 3:00pm. Doors will open at 8am for members to visit Program displays in the hall. Registration forms were included in the Department's last mailing. If you have not received this information, contact Libby DallaTezza at 410-259-1967 or Jackie Kimball at 410-749-9511. All members are encouraged to attend.
10. Auxiliaries are encouraged to bring with them to the School of Instruction: **new members and officers, donations for Hospital Treat and Hospital Fund, non-perishable food items for VA Hospital food pantries, donations to the President's Special Project "The Kitchen in the Maryland House of our National Home," and donations to the Joint Project with the VFW "The McVet's Shuttle Bus Fund."**
11. Department will continue to use e-mail for notifications and the delivery of our monthly mailings. When you receive the Department Directory, please check your contact information, especially your phone and e-mail address so you receive all communications. Please e-mail or send any corrections to the Department Secretary.
12. Department Commander Bruce Edwards' Homecoming will be held on August 16th 2025 at Cecil County Memorial VFW Post 6027 at 813 Turkey Point Road, North East, MD 21901 beginning 12 noon.
13. My theme for this year is **VFW AUXILIARY – A FORCE FOR VETERANS**. My Homecoming will be held on August 23rd 2025 at Wells-McComas VFW Post 2678 at 6521 North Point Road, Edgemere, MD 21219 beginning 12 noon. All are invited.
14. Department Membership Chairman PDP Jackie Kimball asks Auxiliaries to work for 100% membership by December 31, 2025. The Department Program Book distributed at the School of Instruction provides information on the various membership awards available to members, Auxiliaries, and Districts.
15. Congratulations to Jr. Past Department President Debbie Sturgis, her Officers, and Program Chairmen on a productive and successful year. I wish Past President Debbie and her team all the best at our National Convention in Columbus. Ohio.

16. I am looking forward to working together with everyone in the Department of Maryland in the upcoming year. Together we will be **A FORCE FOR VETERANS**

BY ORDER OF:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "William Siperek".

William "Bill" Siperek
Department President

ATTEST:

Libby DallaTezza

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Libby DallaTezza".

Department Secretary