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BY:

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
FRIERSON – NICHOLS UNIT 8, INC.
300 AVE M N.W.
WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA 33881
April 9, 2026

PREAMBLE

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of associations during all wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity, the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to participate in and contribute to the accomplishment of the aims and purposes of The American Legion; to consecrate and sanctify our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be American Legion Auxiliary, FRIERSON-NICHOLS UNIT 8, INC. Department of Florida

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ARTICLE II – NATURE

Section 1: American Legion Auxiliary Frierson-Nichols Unit 8, Inc. is a civilian patriotic service organization that supports the mission of the American Legion.

Section 2: American Legion Auxiliary, Frierson-Nichols Unit 8, Inc. shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for any promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

ARTICLE III – OBJECT

The object of The American Legion Auxiliary, Frierson-Nichols Unit 8, Inc. Department of Florida shall be as stated in the Preamble to the Constitution.

ARTICLE IV – ELIGIBILITY

Section 1: Eligibility for membership in The American Legion Auxiliary is determined by The American Legion. The eligibility requirements from The American Legion governing documents shall be provided as follows and shall be updated as appropriate.

(1) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses and direct and adopted female descendants of member of The American Legion; and

(2) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who served in either of the following periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; and

any time after December 7, 1941: who, being a citizen of the United States at the time of their entry
therein, served on active duty in the Armed Forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during either eligibility periods and died in the line of duty or after honorable discharge;

(3) grandmothers, mothers, sisters, spouses and direct and adopted female descendants of all men and women who were in the Armed Forces of the United States during either of the following periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918: and any time after December 7, 1941 who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during either eligibility periods and dies in the line of duty after honorable discharge: and

(4) to those women who of their own right are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

Section 2: There shall be two classes of membership, Senior and Junior.

(a) Senior membership shall be composed of members eighteen (18) and older; provided, however, a member eligible under Section 1 of this article, and who is under the age of eighteen (18) years and married shall be classified as a Senior.

(b) Junior membership shall be comprised of members under the age of eighteen (18) years, whose activities shall be supervised by the Senior membership. Upon reaching the age of eighteen . (18) Junior members shall automatically be admitted into the Senior membership with full privileges.

(c) Dues for both classes shall be paid annually or for life.

ARTICLE V – UNIT OFFICERS

This Unit shall elect annually a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, Historian, Chaplain, Sergeant-At-Arms and Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms who shall serve until their successors are duly installed or as otherwise provided. Secretary (shall be appointed),

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There shall be an Executive Committee which shall consist of all officers and three (3) additional Members at Large, elected by the Unit and the Unit's immediate Past President. The term of office for members of the Executive shall be for one year.

ARTICLE VII – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this Unit shall be the same as that of the Department of Florida.

Article VIII – AMENDMENTS

Section 1: This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a regular meeting, provided the proposed amendments shall have been read at the previous meeting.

Section 2: Amendments not having been previously read may be adopted by the unanimous vote of the members present.

Section 3: This Constitution shall be automatically amended to conform to the National and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules of the American Legion Auxiliary.

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: Between meetings, the government and management of this Unit shall be entrusted to the Executive Committee and all proceedings of said committee shall be presented to the Unit at the next regular meeting for approval.

Section 2: A vacancy existing in the Executive Committee from any cause other than the expiration of a term shall be filled by a majority vote of the entire committee. A person so elected shall hold office for the unexpired term of the member whom she succeeds.

Section 3: A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4: Special meetings may be called by order of the President, or on written or electronic request of at least three (3) members of the Executive Committee. Uniform notice of such special meetings shall be given to all members of the Executive Committee; and, except in extreme emergency, shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. At special meetings only business specified shall be transacted.

Article II- DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS

Section 1: DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Unit and Unit Executive meetings; to enforce strict observances of the Constitution and Bylaws; to appoint members of Standing Committees; to create other such committees and appoint members thereof as deemed advisable; to perform other such duties as custom and parliamentary usage required and to appoint all officers not otherwise provided for.

Section 2: DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT: The First and Second Vice Presidents in the order named, shall, when called upon, assist the President, and if absent, perform the duties of the office and shall succeed to the office in case of death, resignation or removal.

Section 4: DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY: The Secretary shall be appointed by the President for each term. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to receive and answer official mail under the direction of the President; to keep on file, in a comprehensive manner, copies of all correspondence sent and received, and to send and give notice of all meetings. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record the proceedings and transactions of all meeting of the Unit; and to keep all books, papers and records that are needed to carry on the working of the office and care for the archives of the Unit. The Secretary is hereby vested with such authority as it is necessary to carry out the duties of the office successfully for the good of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Section 5: DUTIES OF THE TREASURER: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all monies belonging to the Unit and account for them. The Treasurer shall pay the bonding fee as determined by the Department Office. The Treasurer shall maintain two (2) separate, namely a General Fund and Poppy Fund. All Poppy donations shall be placed in the Poppy fund and be used to assist a Veteran and his/her children. The Treasurer shall keep an accounting of the receipts and expenditures, making an annual report thereon and such other reports as may be deemed necessary by the Unit Executive Committee. The accounts shall be audited semi-annually. All current bills shall be paid before transferring all funds, books, vouchers and papers belonging to the Unit to the successor.

Section 6: DUTIES OF THE CHAPLAIN: It shall be the duty of the Chaplain to offer prayer at the opening and closing of each meeting, and perform such other duties as directed by the President and to notify Department of any deceased members on a monthly basis.

Section 7: DUTIES OF THE HISTORIAN: It shall be the duty of the Historian to compile the historical records of the Unit and to make a report to the Department.

Section 8: DUTIES OF THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to preserve order at the meeting of the Unit and to perform such duties as may be requested by the President.

Section 9: DUTIES OF THE ASSISTANT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: The Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms shall assist the Sergeant-At-Arms with her duties and in the absence of the Sergeant-At-Arms, assume the duties assigned to her.

ARTICLE III - DUES

Section 1: The annual Senior membership dues of the Unit shall be as stated in the Standing Rules which shall include the Department and National per capita. The annual dues of the Junior membership shall be as stated in the Standing Rules to include the Department and National per capita.

Section 2: A member failing to pay annual dues, including the Unit, Department and National assessments, by January 31, shall be classed as delinquent and shall be suspended from all membership privileges. Payment of back dues, after suspension, shall reinstate such member to active membership. Any member delinquent to December 31 of the year of the delinquency shall automatically be dropped from the rolls and may be reinstated only by paying all back dues or by re-establishing eligibility and making application as a new member.

ARTICLE IV – UNIT MEETINGS

Section 1: The regular scheduled meeting of American Legion Auxiliary, Frierson-Nichols Unit 8, Inc. shall be held as stated in the Standing Rules. An Executive Committee meeting shall be held as stated in the Standing Rules.

Section 2: The number of members of a Unit that shall constitute a quorum at any regular scheduled meeting of the Unit shall be as stated in the Standing Rules.

Section 3: Special meetings of the Unit may be called by the President, by a majority of the Executive Committee, with the President notified, or upon written request of three (3) members of the Unit.

ARTICLE V – ELECTION

Section1: Elections shall be held annually. In order to participate in the election of the Unit Officers, a member shall have paid dues for the current fiscal year within which the election is held.

Section 2: Election shall be by ballot, and a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary with the nominee declared. If there is only one person nominated for an office the ballot may be dispensed with and that nominee declared a winner.

Section 3: All Officers and Executive Committee members shall be elected at a meeting duly called for that purpose not more than ninety (90) days prior not less than fifteen (15) day prior to Department Convention. The Secretary shall be appointed by the Unit President.

Section 4: The Unit shall notify the Department Secretary of the names and addresses of such newly elected officers, not less than ten (10) days prior to Convention, certification to be made on forms furnished by Department.

Section 5: Vacancies in office between annual elections shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

Section 6: Delegates and Alternates to District Constitutional Conference or Department Convention shall be elected not less than two (2) weeks prior to the Conference or Convention. Alternates shall have priority in the order of their election.

ARTICLE VI- COMMITTEES

The Unit shall have the following Core Committees: Americanism, Children & Youth, Constitution and Bylaws, Membership, National Security, Audit, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, and such other mission and member/organizational support committees as provided in the Standing Rules.

ARTICLE VII – TRANSFERS

Transfer of membership from one Unit to another in the Department shall be upon application of the member to, and acceptance by, the other Unit in conformity with National and Department Constitution and By-Laws;

ARITCLE VIII – DISCIPLINE

Section 1: For any violation of the Unit, Department or National Constitution, or for conduct improper and prejudicial to the welfare of the Auxiliary or The American Legion, any member may be expelled from membership, or any officer removed from office, by two-thirds (2/3) vote at a Unit meeting duly called for that purpose; said expulsion or removal to be binding only in the event said member or officer shall have been given at least fifteen (15) days' notice in writing by the Unit Secretary of the charges and the hearing thereon. Either party may have the right to appeal to the Department Executive Committee and their action thereon shall be final. The expense of said appeal shall be borne by the appellant.

Section 2: No member, or group of members, shall subject this Unit to liability without authorization of the Unit.

ARTICLE IX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

This Unit shall be governed by "Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised", on all points not covered in National and/or Department Constitution and By-Laws,

ARTIICLE X – AMENDMENTS

Section 1: These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a regular meeting, provided the proposed amendments shall have been read at the previous Unit meeting.

Section 2: Amendments not having been previously read may be adopted by the unanimous vote of the members present.

Section 3: These Bylaws shall be automatically amended to conform to the National and Department Constitution and By-Laws and Standing Rules of The American Legion Auxiliary.

THIS CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS WERE READ, VOTED ON AND APPROVED AT OUR REGULAR UNIT MEETING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2020.

Amy L. Arthurs
Unit 8 4/9/2026
Unit President Date

Unit Secretary Date

Amy L. Arthurs 4/9/2026
Unit Constitution and Bylaws Chairman

Gene Medlenyo 4/19/2026
Date

Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

Date Approved