

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
Of the
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
JAMES CARL FREDERICK
UNIT 157

CONSTITUTION
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 our 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 good will 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 devotion to mutual helpfulness.”

ARTICLE 1
NAME

Sec. 1. The name of this organization shall be American Legion Auxiliary James Carl Frederick, Unit 157. Department of Florida.



ARTICLE V

UNIT OFFICERS

Sec. 1. The unit shall elect annually a President, First Vice President, Second Vice-President, Secretary (who may be elected or appointed), a Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian and Sergeant-at-Arms, who shall serve until their successors are fully elected.

ARTICLE VI

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers and three additional Members-at-Large, elected by the unit for a term of one year.

ARTICLE VII

FISCAL YEAR

Sec. 1. The fiscal year shall be the same as that of the Department of Florida, July 1st to June 30th.

ARTICLE VIII

AMENDMENTS

Sec. 1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regular meeting provided that the proposed amendments have been read at the previous meeting.

Sec. 3. Election of officers shall be by the ballot and a majority of the votes shall be necessary to elect. When there are more than two candidates for an office and one candidate does not receive a majority, the two candidates getting the most votes shall be placed on a second ballot. When there is but one candidate for an office, the ballot may be dispensed with the nominee declared elected.

Sec. 4. All Officers and Executive Committee member shall be elected at a meeting duly called for that purpose not more than ninety (90) days nor less than fifteen (15) days prior to Department Convention.

Sec. 5. Delegates and alternatives of the District Constitutional Conference and to the Department Convention shall be elected not less than two weeks prior to the Conference or Convention. Alternates have priority in the order of their election.

Sec. 6. 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.

Sec. 7. Vacancies in office between annual elections shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE II

DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS

Sec. 1. President: It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all Unit and Unit Executive Committee meetings; to enforce strict observance of the Constitution and Bylaws; to appoint all standing committees; and shall be an ex-officio member of said committees; to create such committees and appoint members thereof deemed advisable; to perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary usage require; and to appoint all other offices not otherwise provided for.

Sec. 2. First Vice President: The First Vice President shall keep a record of names and addresses of the members, showing the source of their eligibility and process membership cards, transmittals and reports for the unit. This position shall assist the President in the discharge of their duties and in President's absence shall preside over the meetings. In the event of the resignation, death, suspension or removal from office of the President, the First Vice President shall immediately assume all of the duties of President.

Sec. 3. Second Vice President: The Second Vice President shall assist the First Vice President in the discharge of her duties, and shall perform such duties as directed by the President.

Sec. 8. Sergeant-at-Arms: It shall be the duty of the Sergeant-at-Arms to preserve order at all meetings of the Unit and Executive Committee.

ARTICLE III

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

Sec. 2. If a vacancy occurs from any cause other than the expiration of a term, it shall be filled by a majority vote of this entire committee, that member elected shall hold office for the unexpired term of the member he/she succeeds.

Sec. 3. Five (5) members constitute a quorum.

Sec. 4. A special meeting may be called by order of the President or a written request by at least three (3) members of this committee.

ARTICLE IV

DUES

Sec. 1. The annual membership dues of the Unit shall be paid annually or for life and includes the Department and National per capital.

Sec. 4. An annual meeting of this Unit shall be held each year for the purpose of elective officers and receiving reports.

Sec. 5. Three members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

Sec. 6. All members on the premises at the time in which a regularly scheduled meeting is called to order are expected to attend such meeting. Bar service to all Auxiliary 157 members shall be suspended until adjournment of said meeting.

ARTICLE VI

TRANSFERS

Sec. 1. Transfer of membership from one Unit to another shall be by application of the member in conformity with National and Department Constitution Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII

COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. An auditing committee composed of three members shall be appointed by the Unit President for the purpose of auditing the Treasurers accounts at the close of each term and making a report of the audit to the unit.

ARTICLE X
PARLIAMENTARIAN⁴

Sec. 1. A member in good standing may be appointed by the President at their discretion annually, but shall have no vote at Executive Committee meetings.

ARTICLE XI
AMENDMENTS

Sec. 1. Delegates or alternates for Department Convention and Conferences shall be reimbursed by the Unit upon presentation of either a written or oral report from same. Voted on and passed April 8, 1986.

Sec. 2. All members regardless of age must pay their dues, unless they can prove hardship, this must be voted on by the Executive Committee one year at a time. Voted on and passed January 26, 2004.

Sec. 3. Dues of elected officers, executive committee and parliamentarian shall be paid annually by the unit. Voted on and passed on January 26, 2004.

STANDING RULES

1. The regular scheduled meeting of American Legion Auxiliary James Carl Frederick, Unit 157, Inc. shall be held on the 2nd Monday of each month, unless otherwise specified and shall be called to order at 6:30 p.m. An Executive Committee meeting shall be held on the 4th Monday of the month unless otherwise specified and shall be called to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. 5 members of this Unit shall constitute a quorum at any regularly scheduled Meeting of the Unit.
3. The annual Senior membership dues of the Unit shall be \$40 to include Department and National per capita. The annual dues of the Junior membership shall be \$6 to include the Department and National per capita.
4. In addition to the Core Committees listed in the Bylaws, the Unit shall have the following Committees: Community Service, Girls State, Poppy, Education.
5. Unit elected Officers, consisting of President and Treasurer, are authorized to sign checks for disbursement of funds from the Unit Treasury. All checks must have 2 two signatures.
6. All members responsible for Unit funds shall be bonded thru the blanket Fidelity bond and the unit will pay the annual premium to Department Headquarters.
7. A Nominating Committee, composed of three (3) members, shall be elected by the members for the purpose of presenting a slate of officer for the ensuing year. The committee shall have the permission of each candidate for an office in order to be presented by this committee. This committee is to form no later than two (2) months prior to election.
8. An Audit Committee, compromised of three (3) members, shall be appointed by the President for the purpose of auditing the books of the Treasurer. The Treasurer would be present during the audit to answer questions only. No one on the Auditing Committee should have authorization to sign checks.
9. The Unit shall be guided by the Code of Ethics as published in the National Auxiliary Standing Rules on Pages 22-28.

The Constitution and Bylaws were read, voted on and approved at our meeting on February 27, 2023 meeting.

X Denise L. Serfelli

Unit President

X Barbara J. Allaire

Unit Secretary

X _____

Unit Constitution and Bylaws Chairman

Department Constitution & Bylaws Chairman

X Feb. 27, 2023

Date Approved.