



**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS  
OF  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
PALM BAY UNIT 394**

396 Cogan Drive SE

Palm Bay, FL 32909

**February 3, 2026**

**PREAMBLE**

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

To uphold 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 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, Palm Bay Unit 394, Incorporated.

## **ARTICLE II-NATURE**

**Section 1:** American Legion Auxiliary, Palm Bay Unit 394, Incorporated is a civilian patriotic service organization that supports the mission of the American Legion.

**Section 2:** American Legion Auxiliary, Palm Bay Unit 394, Incorporated shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for 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, Palm Bay Unit 394, Incorporated, 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 members 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 periods: April 6, 1917 to November 11, 1918; and any time after December 7, 1941: 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 died in the line of duty or 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 members are those who are age eighteen (18) or older and those under the age of eighteen (18) years and married.
- b) Junior members are those under the age of eighteen (18) years; their activities are supervised by Senior members. Upon reaching eighteen (18) years of age, Junior members are automatically admitted into Senior membership with full privileges.
- c) Dues for both classes shall be paid annually or "Paid Up For Life".

## **ARTICLE V-UNIT OFFICERS**

**Section 1:** The Unit shall elect annually a President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, and Sergeant-at-Arms, who shall serve until their successors are duly installed. The Unit President will appoint the Unit Secretary, Assistant Sergeant-at Arms and Committees Chairpersons.

## **ARTICLE VI-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Executive Committee will consist of President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chaplain, Historian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, three (3) Members at Large, and Past President(s).

## **ARTICLE VII-FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year shall be the same as that of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Florida.

## **ARTICLE VIII-AMENDMENTS**

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

**Section 2:** Amendments not having been read at the previous meeting 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 committees shall be presented to the Unit at the next meeting for approval.

**Section 2:** A vacancy on the Executive Committee, from any cause other than expiration of a term, shall be filled by a majority vote of the entire committee, upon recommendation of the President. A person so elected shall hold office for the unexpired term of the succeeding member.

**Section 3:** Attendance by a majority of Executive Committee members 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, they shall be given at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. At special meetings only business specified shall be transacted.

**Section 5:** Executive Committee Meetings unless otherwise specified will be closed meetings.

## **ARTICLE II-DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1:** Duties of the Unit President - It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Unit and Unit Executive Committee Meetings; to enforce strict observance of the Constitution and Bylaws and Standing Rules; to appoint a Unit Secretary, Unit Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, and Chairpersons of Standing Committees; to create such other committees and appoint members thereof as deemed advisable to perform other such duties as custom and parliamentary usage may require; and to appoint all officers not otherwise provided for.

**Section 2:** Duties of the Vice Presidents - The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents, in the order named, shall, when called upon, assist the President or in the President's absence, perform the duties of the office and shall succeed to the office in case of death, resignation, or removal. It shall be the Duty of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to hold the Membership Chairpersons position for Unit 394 unless otherwise directed by the Unit President.

**Section 3: Duties of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President shall assist the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President in carrying out Unit 394 operations. Duties are to be the liaison between the Auxiliary and The American Legion Post 394 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President. Responsibilities include coordination of all Unit 394 events utilizing Post 394 Kitchen and to follow established Post 394 Kitchen guidelines.

**Section 4: Duties of the Secretary** - 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 meetings 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 needed to carry out the duties of the office successfully for the good of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 394.

**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's Unit shall pay the bonding fee as determined by the Department Office. The Treasurer shall maintain two (2) separate funds, namely a General Fund, and Poppy Fund. All Poppy donations shall be placed in the Poppy Fund and be used to assist the 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 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, to 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 and outlined in Department and National Sergeant-at-Arms guidelines, ceremonies, and traditions.

**Section 9:** Duties of Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms – It shall be the duty of the Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms to assist the Sergeant-at-Arms in all duties and to participate in ceremonial functions alongside Sergeant-at-Arms. The Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms works under the direction of the Sergeant-at-Arms and does not independently manage meetings, finances, or programs unless specifically authorized.

**Section 10:** Where necessary, a recording secretary and a corresponding secretary may be elected to carry out the duties normally performed by the secretary.

### **ARTICLE III-DUES**

**Section 1:** The annual Senior membership dues of the Unit shall be 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<sup>st</sup>, shall be classified 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<sup>st</sup> of the year of the delinquency shall automatically be dropped from the rolls and may only be reinstated by paying 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 Palm Bay Unit 394, 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.

**Section 4:** Electronic meetings may be held during an emergency or at any time a Unit's President deems necessary. Notification of an electronic meeting and/or voting must be sent to each member of the Unit via email or regular mail if no email address is available and shall contain an agenda and any documents that participants will need to reference in advance so that participants can follow the flow of the meeting and/or voting procedure. Minutes of the electronic meeting must be created as well as recording the motions and votes.

## **ARTICLE V-ELECTION**

**Section 1:** 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:** Elections 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 is declared the winner.

**Section 3.** Any candidate running for office shall run for only one office per term.



**Section 4:** All Officers and Executive Committee members shall be elected at a meeting duly called for that purpose not more than ninety (90) days prior, no less than fifteen (15) days prior to Department Convention.

**Section 5:** 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 6:** Vacancies of and Officer between annual elections (other than President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, will be filled by replacement recommendation by Unit President to Executive Committee. Executive Committee will review and approve such recommendation.

**Section 7:** 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.

#### **ARTICLE VI-COMMITTEES**

The Unit shall have the following Core Committees: Americanism, Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF), Children & Youth, Community Service, Constitution & Bylaws, Education, Girls State, Juniors, Leadership, Legislative, Membership, National Security, Public Relations, Poppy's, 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 shall be upon application of the member to, and acceptance by, Unit 394. All Transfers shall be in conformity with National and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Unit 394 Standing Rules.

## **ARTICLE 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 Unit 394 membership or any officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at a Unit meeting duly called for that purpose. Said expulsion or removal shall 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. Both parties may have the right to appeal to the Department Executive Committee, and their action thereon shall be final. The expenses of the 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**

The Unit organization shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" on all points not covered in National and Department Constitution and Bylaws and Unit 394 Standing Rules.

## **ARTICLE X-AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1:** The Bylaws may be amended by two thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a regular meeting, provided the proposed amendment(s) shall have been read at a previous Unit meeting.

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

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

THIS CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS WILL REPLACE THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS DATED OCTOBER 3, 2023 AND AMENDMENT DATED MARCH 5, 2024. THEY WERE READ, VOTED ON, AND APPROVED AT OUR REGULAR UNIT MEETING ON **FEBRUARY 3, 2026.**

X Berthann Myczkowski  
Unit President Berthann Myczkowski

X Kim Johnston  
Unit Secretary Kim Johnston

X Bonnie Napora  
Unit Constitution & Bylaws Chairperson  
Bonnie Napora