



**Empire State Leathernecks
Detachment #1493**

Bylaws

Approved 16 May 2023



Marine Corps League
Department of New York
Office of The Judge Advocate

16 May 2023

Judge Advocate
Detachment #1493
Empire State Leathernecks
Marine Corps League
PO Box 360
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY. 10706-0360

Your Bylaws as submitted to me for review have been reviewed and found to be in accordance with National and Department Bylaws and are therefore accepted and approved as directed by Article 4 section 505 of the National Bylaws.

Please note that as New National or Department Bylaws are passed, your Bylaws should be re-examined to make use that they will still be in compliance. Remember that they may never be in conflict with either the Department or National Bylaws.

Best Regards,

Michael A. Piscioti
Judge Advocate
Department of New York
Marine Corps League

APPROVED
16 MAY 2023
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE
DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE!
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**Marine Corps League
Empire State Leathernecks Detachment #1493**

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1

General

Section 100 – Name:

By virtue of the Charter granted by the Marine Corps League National Commandant, the name of this organization shall be Empire State Leathernecks Detachment #1493, Marine Corps League hereinafter referred to as the Detachment.

Section 110 – Purpose:

- (a) To preserve the tradition and to promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps.
- (b) To cooperate and assist all Veterans Hospitals in any way.
- (c) To assist all Marines, both active and inactive, in any way possible, and to secure assistance from whatever source available.
- (d) To promote cooperation between this Detachment and all other Marine Corps League Detachments, and all other Veterans Organizations.
- (e) To lend the Empire State Leathernecks Detachment endorsement to all causes that promote Americanism.
- (f) To serve as a "Member at Large" Detachment within the Department of New York with the aim being to promote the eventual transfer of members to Detachments in their local areas as active members of the League.

Section 120 – Dissolution:

In the case the Detachment is dissolved, all property and monies shall be distributed to the Marine Corps League, Department of New York.

Section 130 – National and Department Bylaws:

National Bylaws and Department of New York Bylaws shall take precedent to all the Detachment Bylaws. Every effort should be made to conform the Detachment Bylaws in a timely manner after a change has been made that conflicts with the National By-Laws or Department of New York By-Laws.

Section 140 – Policy:

- (a) The supreme power of the Detachment shall be vested always in its membership, functioning through its Board of Trustees.
- (b) The Detachment shall never take part in any labor or management dispute or issue, and it shall be ever non-sectarian, non-political and non-partisan; nor shall it be biased on the grounds of race, color, creed, nationality, or sex, nor shall it be used as a medium of political ambitions or preferment's; nor shall former or present Military rank or former or present civilian position be used as the basis for special consideration or preference.
- (c) Nothing in the preceding subsection shall prohibit the Detachment from participating in political issues affecting the welfare of the United States Marine Corps, the National Security of our nation, or any veterans claims for justice arising from service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

ARTICLE 2

Membership

Section 200 – Membership:

Membership in the Empire State Leathernecks Detachment shall conform to the National Bylaws, Article IV – Membership.

Section 210 – Definitions:

All matters pertaining to the definitions of membership application, dues, fees, good standing, proof of eligibility, transfer and rights of members shall be in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures. The exception that, under Article 5, Section 540-MEMBERS which states "Each Detachment shall be the sole Judge of its membership".

ARTICLE 3

Officers

Section 300 – Board of Trustees:

The Detachment elected officers shall be the Board of Trustees.

Section 310 – Elected Officers:

- (a) The elected Department Officers (Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, Judge Advocate and Junior Past Commandant) shall be the elected Detachment Officers.
- (b) The annual (dual) membership dues of the Elected Officers of this Detachment, to include the Jr Past Commandant, shall be paid on their behalf by the Detachment for the duration of their term(s) of office serving as the Detachment Board of Trustees.

Section 320 – Appointed Officers:

- (a) The following shall be the appointed Detachment Officers by the Detachment Commandant: Adjutant, Paymaster (or Adjutant Paymaster), Sergeant at Arms, Chaplain, Web Sergeant.
- (b) . The Department Commandant may appoint any other staff officers which are deemed necessary.
- (c) The annual (dual) membership of the Appointed Officers of this Detachment shall be paid on their behalf by the Detachment for the duration of their term(s) of office.

ARTICLE 4

Finance

Section 400 – Fiscal Guidelines:

- (a) The Paymaster and the Board of Trustees shall consult with the Judge Advocate or other professionals as necessary from time to time to ensure that all expenditures are compliant under the National Bylaws, Department of New York Bylaws and Detachment Bylaws, along with all Federal Tax Codes and all local laws and ordinances.

- (b) The Board of Trustees shall review and approve all proposed expenditures and fund-raising income opportunities.
- (c) The Board of Trustees shall receive a financial report at every Department Staff meeting for review.

Section 410 – Expenditures:

No member of the Detachment shall enter into a contract or financial commitment without prior approval from the Board of Trustees, with exception to:

- (a) The Detachment shall pay the Department of New York Convention, Northeast Division Conference, Mid-Winter, and National Convention Registration fees for all non-dual members requesting same.
- (b) Register all eligible Delegates for National Conventions (attending or not) for contested National elections with Board approval.
- (c) The Detachment shall support the Ad Books for National, Division and Department.
- (d) Make an annual donation to the Department at the Department Convention with funds in excess of \$2,500.00.

Section 430 – Audits:

- (a) A full financial report and property inventory will be submitted to the Board of Trustees at the yearly meeting.
- (b) An audit shall be performed annually or at the change of officers.
- (c) The Commandant shall appoint an Audit Committee of three (3) members plus the Paymaster to conduct audits.

Section 440 – Bonding:

All Detachment Officers handling Detachment monies shall be bonded. The Detachment Commandant and Detachment Paymaster are covered under a "blanket" bond held and paid for by National Headquarters. The bonding of other Detachment Officers, who handle Detachment monies, shall be arranged for by the Detachment at the expense of the Detachment (Article 8, Section 815 of National Bylaws applies)

Section 450 – Dues:

- (a) The Board of Trustees shall decide annually at the June business meeting the dues for the following year.

- (b) The dues of the Detachment shall never be less than the amount required to cover Department and National dues.

Section 460 – Fiscal Year:

The fiscal year for the Detachment shall be from 1 July to 30 June.

Section 470 – Checks:

- (a) All expenses more than \$250, except for membership transmittals, and transactions to the Department of New York, and/or National Headquarters, must be approved by the membership, or the Board of Trustees prior to purchase. Upon the presentation of invoices charged to the Detachment, the Paymaster shall pay the Detachment indebtedness.
- (b) All invoices will be paid by check and will be signed by at least two (2) authorized signatories.
- (c) Membership Transmittals and payments to the Department of New York and National Headquarters are exempt from the two (2) signature requirements.
- (d) Authorized signatories for Detachment checks shall be the Paymaster, Commandant and Senior Vice Commandant.

ARTICLE V

Grievances

Section 500 – Grievances:

If a member has a personal grievance or suspects a wrong doing within the Detachment, the member shall follow the procedures outlined in the Department Bylaws, Chapter 18.

ARTICLE VI

Amendments

Section 600 – Amendments:

Bylaws and Administrative Procedures may be adopted, suspended, repealed, altered, amended, or annulled using the following procedure:

- (a) Any Detachment member in good standing will submit his recommended change in writing to the Judge Advocate.
- (b) The Judge Advocate will review the proposed change with the Trustees (acting as the Bylaw Committee). They will decide to
 - i. Recommend adoption or
 - ii. Defer action until a later time not to exceed one year, or

Once the Trustees decide to act on the change(s):

The proposed change(s) will be read at the next regular Detachment meeting, and a copy will be posted to the Detachment web site for member review. The proposal will be voted on at the second meeting. Approval of the proposal(s) will require a two thirds (2/3) majority of the Detachment members attending and voting.

The Detachment Judge Advocate will then forward the proposal(s) to the Department Judge Advocate for approval.

Once the Department Judge Advocate approves the proposed change(s), it/they will be adopted by the Detachment and the bylaws will be changed.

The Administration Procedures may be amended, revised, or repealed by a majority vote of the Detachment Trustees, or at a Detachment meeting by a majority vote of the members present.