



Marine Corps League

Department of North Carolina



William E. “Bill” Brown

Judge Advocate

05-April-2023

From: William E. Brown,
To: Judge Advocate, Department of North Carolina
Bylaws Committee Chairperson, Department of North Carolina

Subject: Proposed DoNC Bylaws Change Article Six Section 618 Not in Good Standing

In accordance with Article Eight, Section 800, of Department Bylaws (DBL) Amendments, I am submitting the following change for consideration at the 2023 Department of North Carolina Convention.

NO CURRENT LANGUAGE EXIST:

PROPOSED LANGUAGE (New or Revised text in RED)

SECTION 618 -NOT IN GOOD STANDING - Remaining as a member in good standing is what all activities of The League rely upon and paramount to the success of a detachment. All members shall be considered not in good standing in the Marine Corps League if they meet any of the criteria set forth in NAP Section 7030 . It is the members’ responsibility to pay their dues in a timely manner in order to remain as a member in good standing. It is the responsibility of the Commandant to inform the members that this procedure is in place and do everything possible to have all members remain in good standing. It is desirable that any responsible elected or appointed officer submit their resignation to that office if they do not intend to remain a member in good standing.

a. Members not in good standing are subject to the restrictions defined in the Detachment’s and Department’s bylaws, and unless stated therein otherwise:

(1) No longer have the right to participate in any detachment meeting of any Marine Corps League organization. At the discretion of the Commandant, they could be allowed to attend as a guest and thus be “authorized to attend” as stated by the Sergeant-at-Arms at the opening of every meeting.

(a) The Paymaster will provide a list of the members not in good standing to the Sergeant-at-Arms.

(b) The Sergeant-at-Arms will make note of members who attend the meeting who are named on the list provided by the Paymaster.

(2) At the discretion of the Commandant or Presiding Officer of the meeting, when the member provides full dues payment to the Paymaster prior to the meeting’s opening, they become a member in good standing.

b. Elected or appointed officers not in good standing shall relinquish their title. At the opening of the meeting, the Commandant or Presiding Officer shall announce after Chaplain’s prayer before any other business transpires, that the elected or appointed office is now vacant. Furthermore, the Commandant or Presiding Officer:

(1) Shall announce that during this meeting a member in good standing shall be appointed to fill that vacated office as prescribed in the detachment’s bylaws and or administrative procedures.

(2) Shall authorize the Sergeant-at-Arms or Adjutant to acquire within three (3) days any and all books, records, and other property of the detachment for which the office of being vacated. These items shall then be delivered to the newly appointed member to that vacated



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office. At the successful completion of the transfer of items, the Sergeant-at-Arms or Adjutant shall report to the Commandant at the next meeting of the organization when these actions took place.

c. The Sgt at Arms, when reporting that all present are qualified to remain will add the number of members who cannot participate in any detachment deliberations.

d. If the member subsequently regains their membership in good standing before being taken off the National rolls, they will have all their member rights reinstated. The vacated elected or appointed office position will not be automatically reinstated. Detachment procedures for electing or appointing officers are then to be followed. (New 2021)

RATIONALE: This language was adopted at the 2021 National Convention and has applicability to all Detachments. The deadline for payment of member dues was changed to a single date of August 31st of each year since 201X and there is no reason for members to be “Not in Good Standing”. The Detachment Commandant must ensure that word is disseminated to the members early and that payments are in before that date. It is impactful for an elected or appointed officer. This is not a situation where the monies did not get processed by the Paymaster or Adjutant/Paymaster at the Detachment, Department or National level. This is where a member took an oath to faithfully fulfill the duties of their office and ignored the deadline. This will also require the Detachments to look at their election process to determine the amount of time an individual that becomes “Not in Good Standing” to wait until they are eligible to be elected and/or appointed to serve the Detachment going forward. This also shows more involvement between the Sgt-at-Arms, the Paymaster and Adjutant before and during the meetings in notifying the Commandant or Presiding Officer of the situation and taking the appropriate action.

Respectfully Submitted,

William E. Brown

MCL# 342077 / LIFE# 60939

Past Commandant

Air, Land NC Detachment #1257

Department of North Carolina

Mideast Division

(703) 623-5803