



BY-LAWS OF THE  
COPPER STATE DETACHMENT  
MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

**BY-LAWS OF THE**  
**COPPER STATE DETACHMENT**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**Article I**  
**Authority**

**Section 100** - The Detachment may charge and collect dues from its members, receive material or financial contributions and conduct such other fund-raising activities as legal and proper. It may utilize such funds in carrying out the purposes of organization. It may acquire by purchase, devise, bequest, gift or otherwise, such real and personal property as necessary to carry out the purposes of the organization; and, it may hold, encumber, convey or dispose of such real or personal property as shall be deemed necessary to carry out its purposes. As and when necessary, it may retain consultants and counsel or hire employees.

**Section 105** - Elections

**Section 106** - Conduct of Elections; Time of Elections

(a) All elections of elected officers of the Detachment shall be by secret written ballot, except that in the case where only one nominee is standing for election, open voting in the meeting may be conducted with respect to that nominee.

(b) Only members who are in good standing shall be permitted to stand for election or vote in any election of officers.

**Section 107** - Ballots

Election ballots shall be printed on plain paper with the nominated candidates' names printed directly under the office for which the nominee stands for election, and shall also have spaces for the voting members to add the name(s) of nominees who may be nominated from the floor and duly seconded and present at the time of nomination.

**Section 108** - Nominations

(a) A member's name may be placed in nomination in the following ways:

(b) By the Nominating Committee;

(c) By any member in good standing at an open meeting of the Detachment and duly seconded and present at the time of nomination;

(d) By written notice given by any member in good standing to the chairman of the Nominating Committee, which notice shall be delivered to the chairman prior to the date of meeting when the Nominating Committee renders its committee report;

(e) Members nominated for any elected office shall be advised prior to nomination by the Nominating Committee, or any member, as applicable, and the member so nominated shall prepare, in writing, a notice which states that the nominee is willing and able to serve in the office for which he/she is nominated, if elected;

**BY-LAWS OF THE**  
**COPPER STATE DETACHMENT**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

(f) If a member is nominated by another, and seconded at an open meeting, after the second (2nd) reading of proposed candidates for office, the proposed nominee shall be afforded the opportunity to accept or reject the proposed nomination at that time. Also state that he/she is willing and able to serve in the office for which he/she is nominated, if elected.

**Section 109 - Nominating Committee**

(a) The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members in good standing, appointed by the Commandant to serve for the pending election only.

(b) The Nominating Committee shall be selected in the month of January no later than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the meeting of which the Committee is to make its report at the February meeting, which is in turn one (1) regular meeting prior to the meeting at which balloting takes place; the report of the Nominating Committee shall be read aloud at each of the two (2) regular meetings which includes the meeting at which the balloting takes place.

(c) The Nominating Committee shall meet and select one or more candidates for each of the four Elected Officer positions, counsel with other members of the Detachment, contact proposed nominees and deliberate as shall be necessary to make a committee report as set forth herein.

(d) The Nominating Committee shall also be responsible for the conduct of the election, the provision of ballots, collection, counting and reporting of the results of the election to the membership, and certifying that the election report is true and correct.

(e) The Nominating Committee will obtain a list of members in good standing at the time of the March Election and hand out ballots to those members only.

**Section 110 - Time of Election. Vote Required for Election**

(a) The election of Elected Officers of the Detachment shall take place annually during the month of March. Members must be present must present to vote.

(b) An officer shall be elected if he/she receives a simple majority (50 percent plus (one) of the total votes cast in the election. If no majority is attained by a candidate, a runoff election shall be held as between the two candidates who had the most votes cast for them. Whichever candidate attains the most votes in the runoff election is elected.

**Section 111 - Installation of New Officers.** The successful candidate for each office will be duly installed within 30 days subsequent of the election. Elected officers will assume their responsibilities after their installation. The Detachment Commandant will insure that a written installation report of officers is sent to National Headquarters, Marine Corps League, Division Vice-Commandant and Department Adjutant no later than fifteen (15) days after installation.

**Section 112 - Installation of Officers.** The installation of new officers will be in accordance with Marine Corps League ritual.

**BY-LAWS OF THE**  
**COPPER STATE DETACHMENT**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**Article II**  
**Officers**

**Section 200** - The following officers shall be elected for a term of one year and may stand for re-election one consecutive additional term.

(a) Commandant;

(b) Senior Vice-Commandant;

(c) Junior Vice-Commandant;

(d) Judge Advocate

(e) Elected officers of the Detachment are the Board of Trustees of the Detachment, responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Detachment, and shall assume and conduct all duties according to these By-Laws or other lawful actions of the Detachment. The immediate Past Commandant will serve as a member of the board.

**Section 215** - Vacancy

(a) The order of succession to the office of Commandant shall be:

(b) Senior Vice Commandant

(c) Junior Vice Commandant

(d) In the event of vacancies in the office of junior Vice Commandant and/or Judge Advocate, the Commandant, with the advice and consent of the remaining Board of Trustee members, shall appoint a successor to fill the unexpired term of office.

(e) In addition to death, resignation, or incapacitation, a vacancy can occur in the case of removal from office for cause.

**Section 210** - Duties of Officers

**Detachment Commandant** - The Commandant shall preside over the Detachment meetings and assemblies and fulfill the duties set forth below, recognizing that he/she may delegate some of the listed duties, as appropriate:

(a) Provide leadership in establishing the Detachment agenda of priorities for the year;

(b) Encourage members to carry out the priorities established for the year;

(c) Appoint a chairman of all standing committees. He shall be Ex-Officio, a member of all committees;

**BY-LAWS OF THE**  
**COPPER STATE DETACHMENT**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

- (d) Call for reports from all committees and assign reports to the agenda for action;
- (e) Establish an executive committee of Elected Officers and appointed officers, as necessary, to assist in the operation of the Detachment and in carrying out such social and civic responsibilities, as the Detachment shall determine;
- (f) Stay in contact with the national and Department levels of the Marine Corps League as required by the procedures of those agencies, and execute such documents for the Marine Corps League as may be required;
- (g) Appear and speak in public and represent the Detachment as necessary;
- (h) Call such meetings as required by these By-Laws and by actions of the Detachment.

**Senior Vice-Commandant** - The Senior Vice-Commandant shall:

- (a) Give every assistance to the Commandant;
- (b) In the absence of the Commandant, serve at all meetings as the presiding officer;
- (c) Assume the duties of the Commandant should a vacancy occur in that office;
- (d) Initiate and implement, with the approval of the Commandant and the Board of Trustees, programs designed to increase the effectiveness of the Detachment.

**Junior Vice-Commandant** - The Junior Vice-Commandant shall:

- (a) In the absence of the Senior Vice-Commandant perform the duties of that office;
- (b) In the absence of both the Commandant and the Senior Vice-Commandant perform the duties of the Commandant;
- (c) Assume the duties of the Senior Vice-Commandant should a vacancy occur in that office;
- (d) Design and carry out programs, with the approval of the Commandant and Board of Trustees, which will facilitate retention of current members and recruitment of new members.

**Judge Advocate** - The Judge Advocate shall:

- (a) Advise all Detachment Officers of the By-Laws of the Marine Corps League, the Department of Arizona, and the Detachment;
- (b) Render opinions, through the Commandant, in all questions of law that may arise concerning the By-Laws of the Detachment;
- (c) Not serve simultaneously as both Detachment and Department Judge Advocate. If elected as Department Judge Advocate, he/she must resign as Detachment Judge Advocate.

**13. BY-LAWS OF THE**  
**COPPER STATE DETACHMENT**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

Having considered an opinion rendered by the Judge Advocate, the Commandant will rule on that opinion. Any member of the Detachment in good standing may challenge the ruling by calling for a sustaining vote. Two thirds of the member's present will be required to reverse a ruling of the Commandant. Any appeal of Commandant's ruling shall be made to the Department of Arizona Judge Advocate within thirty (30) days. nothing in the foregoing shall prevent an individual from employing outside counsel if deemed necessary.

**Article ID - National Staff or Department Staff**

**Article IV - Departments**

**Article V - Detachments**

**Article VI - Members (partial]**

**Article VII - Subsidiaries and Subordinate Groups**

**Above are intentionally been left blank as the Detachment follows the National  
and Department By-Laws of Arizona in these sections**

**Article VI**  
**Membership**

**Section 600 - Eligibility for Membership**

**Regular Membership** - Any individual who has met any of the following requirements is eligible for membership in the Marine Corps League if sponsored by a regular member in good standing.

- (a) Presently serving in the United States Marine Corps;
- (b) Honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps with no less than ninety (90) days of active duty;
- (c) Presently serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, or have served in the USMCR and have earned ninety (90) reserve retirement credits.
- (d) U.S. Navy Corpsmen who have trained with Marine FMF Units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps Device (clasp) worn on the Service Ribbon and those who earn the Warfare Device authorized for FMF Corpsmen shall be eligible for regular membership in the Marine Corps League.
- (e) Some Korean War Era Marines who were ordered to active duty prior to completion of Recruit Training or Officers Training and subsequently received an Honorable Discharge prior to completion of ninety (9) days active or Reserve duty, shall be deemed eligible for Regular Membership.
- (f) General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable.

### **13. BY-LAWS OF THE** **COPPER STATE DETACHMENT** **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

**Associate Membership** - Those individuals not qualified for regular membership in the Marine Corps League or Marine Corps League Auxiliary who espouse the principles and purposes of the Marine Corps League as contained in its Congressional Charter may upon application to a Detachment, or to the National Headquarters, be accepted for associate membership in the Marine Corps League. Associate Members, upon acceptance, will pay dues in the some amounts as prescribed for regular members. A membership pin and membership cards similar to the design and style of the approved regular membership pin and membership card, indicating Associate Membership will be issued by National Headquarters. An associate membership is entitled to the rights, privileges and benefits of a regular member; however, such member shall not vote on a membership application, an election of officers or hold an elective office. Associate members may vote on internal affairs of the Detachment provided such vote does not affect a policy of the Marine Corps League.

**Other Branches of the Armed Forces.** Individuals who are now serving or have served in other branches of the Armed Forces of the United States must have served honorably.

**Section 625 - Ineligible Member.** Any member may be required to prove membership eligibility qualifications at any time. Should it be determined after careful investigation that a member does not have the required qualification for membership, in accordance with the Charter and the National Bylaws of the Marine Corps League, such member shall be dropped from the rolls immediately. Proper notice of such action and the reasons therefore shall be expedited to the jurisdictional Department and the National Headquarters

**Section 630 - Transfer of Membership**

(a) Transfer from one Detachment to another may be accomplished by completing MCL Form Request for Transfer, This form will confirm, by endorsement, that the requesting member is in good standing, has no outstanding debts and dues are current;

(b) Any Marine Corps League member may transfer into the Detachment from another Detachment, upon application to and approval of the gaining Detachment, provided that the member has no outstanding debts to the member's former Detachment.

**Section 628 - Delinquent Members.** A member will be identified as delinquent whenever the member's dues are not paid and transmitted, on or before the expiration date.

(a) Such a member shall be retained in the delinquent status for a maximum of one year, during which time; the member may erase this status by payment of all dues in arrears and all current dues and provided the member is not indebted to the member's Detachment.

(b) Should the affected member remain in the delinquent status in excess of one year such member shall be dropped from all membership rolls. The member may be restored to "good standing" status through the processing of a standard application form as a renewing member and by forwarding the applicable renewal fee as currently established. Initiation fees are no longer applicable. A member who is delinquent and wishes to retain "continued membership status" shall do so by submitting the standard application form which shall be accompanied by ALL past dues which have accumulated during the entire period of the applicant's delinquent status.

# **13. BY-LAWS OF THE** **COPPER STATE DETACHMENT** **MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

c) Newsletters shall not be sent to delinquent members after ninety days of delinquency. A delinquent member has no privilege of voting at meetings.

## **Article VIII** **Miscellaneous**

**Section 800** - Adoption. These By-Laws may be adopted at a regular meeting of the Detachment provided however, that written copies of the proposed By-Laws shall be mailed to each member not less than **thirty (30)** days prior to the meeting at which these By-Laws are proposed for adoption. If a quorum is present at the meeting at which these By-Laws are proposed for adoption, and a majority of those members present, in good standing, vote in favor of such adoption, these By-Laws shall become the By-Laws of the Detachment, as presented or as amended from the floor in proper order. To become effective upon approval of the Department Judge Advocate.

**Section 801** - Revision, Repeal or Amendment. Once adopted, these By-Laws may be revised, repealed in whole or in part, or otherwise amended by a two-third (2/3) majority vote of those members present, and in good standing.

**Section 802** - Process for Revision, Repeal or Amendment - Any proposed revision, repeal or amendment to these By-Laws shall be submitted in writing by at least five (5) members of the Detachment in good standing, to the Commandant not later than forty five (45) days prior to the meeting at which such revision, repeal or amendment is proposed to be voted on, and the Adjutant shall, in turn, forward copies of the proposal to each member at his/her last known address, not later than thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which such revision, repeal or amendment is proposed to be voted on. The members proposing such revision, repeal or amendment shall identify themselves, and the notice shall contain such identification.

**Section 805** - Effective Date. These By-Laws, revisions, repeal or amendments shall become effective immediately upon the review and approval of the Department and National Judge Advocates.

**Section 809** - Dues. The membership shall determine the amount of dues for the ensuing year. The annual dues will include:

- (a) National Marine Corps League dues;
- (b) Department of Arizona dues;
- (c) Copper State Detachment dues;
- (d) Any other assessments.

**Section 810** - Distribution

- (a) Each Elected Officer shall be in possession of a true correct copy of these By-Laws, as adopted, and all revisions or amendments thereto, which copy shall be surrendered to their succeeding officer upon leaving office.



**13. BY-LAWS OF THE**  
**COPPER STATE DETACHMENT**  
**MARINE CORPS LEAGUE**

(b) The Detachment Adjutant shall retain in his care and control, true and correct copies of the By-Laws and all revisions and amendment thereto, for the distribution to members and new members of the Detachment.

**Section 850** - Establishment Responsibility of Trustees. The Elected Officers and the immediate past Commandant are the Trustees of the Detachment and as such have responsibility for the financial affairs of the Detachment.

**Section 851** - Prohibition Against Creating Indebtedness - No officer or member of the Detachment is authorized to obligate the Detachment or cause it to become indebted to any person, firm or corporation for any amount of money whatsoever unless there has been approval of such obligation or indebtedness by the membership in accordance with appropriate motions having been approved by the membership at a regular or special meeting of the Detachment.

**Section 852** - Procedure for Authorization of Expenses. Officers, Committees and members who are planning events or activities, which would involve the expenditure of money, will prepare a proposal budget report. The report will be submitted to the Trustees, who in turn, shall make recommendations to the membership for approval. Any spending shall be within the approved budget amount, unless by proper motion, the membership shall approve the change in budget amount.

**Section 853** - Requirement for Membership to Approve Expenses. No expenditure for any event or activity may be authorized by the membership unless it has first been considered by the Elected Officers (Trustees) and recommended to the membership.

**Section 854** - Time Limits on Submission of Budgets for Approval. Any proposed budget for any Event or activity must be submitted to the Trustees for consideration and action no later than fifteen (15) days prior to any regular or special meeting of the membership at which the proposed expenditures are to be considered for approval by the membership.

**Section 855** - Emergency Funds. notwithstanding the provisions of sections 12.3, 12.4 and 12.5 of this Article the Board of Trustees is authorized to spend up to \$200.00 (two hundred dollars) at any one time in excess of an annual budget for emergency or incidental expenses which are required for the good of the Detachment; provided, however, that at the next regular meeting of the Detachment after such expenditure is made, the Commandant must disclose and explain the expenditure, and receive ratification of the expenditure by the Detachment membership.

**Section 856** - Annual Audit. Each year the Elected Officers shall select an Audit Committee of not less than three members, who are neither Elected nor Appointed Officers, to conduct an audit of the financial affairs of the Detachment, which audit shall be conducted at the end of the term of office of the outgoing Elected Officers. The auditors shall submit a written report to the membership at the next regular meeting of the Detachment.

**This is the end of the By-Laws**