



Department of Hawaii General Orders # 001

Series 2025-2026

July 1, 2025

1. Commander's Moment:

Jason Seal was elected commander of the VFW Department of Hawaii at the 87th State Convention. Jason served in the USMC from 1982 to 2010 and earned his VFW eligibility through deployments in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and OEF. Jason is a member of Post 110 and maintains a Gold Life Membership. He was born in Annapolis, Maryland and was raised in East Africa.

Commander's Statement:

I shall faithfully support the Mission of the VFW - to foster camaraderie among U. S. veterans of overseas conflicts, to serve veterans, the military, and communities, and to advocate on behalf of all veterans.

I shall faithfully support the Vision of the VFW - to ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones made on behalf of this great country

I shall have three main focuses: advocacy, the mission of the Service Officers, and recruitment. They are all tied together in support of our fellow veterans.

I shall ensure close partnership with our Auxiliary. They are a "Force Multiplier" and their efforts are to be appreciated.

I shall do all that I can to uphold the warrior ethos of the VFW, honor the sacrifices of those who came before us, respect the service of our fellow comrades, and be an advocate for veterans.

"IT IS BETTER TO SERVE THAN TO BE SERVED"

2. All previous General Orders are rescinded.

3. Attention of all members is directed to the purposes listed within the VFW's Congressional Charter. Amongst the "Purposes" of the VFW (Sec 230102): "To preserve and strengthen



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comradeship among its members”; “to perpetuate the memory of our dead, and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans”; “to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom”; and “to preserve and defend the United States from all enemies”. As such, the Department of Hawaii will maintain true allegiance to the United States and the law of the land and nurture the patriotic spirit of those who served in foreign wars or expeditions. The Department shall be apolitical and shall support our Federal Charter by solely bearing allegiance to the Government of the United States and fidelity to its Constitution.

4. The following officers were elected for the Department of Hawaii in accordance with Section 520 of the National By-Laws:

Commander	Jason Seal	Post 110
Senior Vice Commander	Lynn Mariano	Post 8616
Junior Vice Commander	Rodney Boucher	Post 12138
Judge Advocate	Patsy Takemura	Post 10276
Surgeon	Lynn Gernert	Post 2875
Quartermaster	Norbert Enos	Post 2875
Chaplain	Stanley Fernandez	Post 10276

5. The National Council Member for the Department of Hawaii was chosen in accordance with Section 623 of the National By-Laws. The term expires in July 2028.

National Council-Member	Ronald Schaedel	Post 10276
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6. All earlier appointments have expired and are declared invalid.

7. The following National Committee appointments are hereby made:

National Veteran Service Committee	Raymond Loo	Post 10276
National Legislative	Jame Schaedel	Post 12138



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8. The following appointments are hereby made:

State Adjutant	George Barlett	Post 10154
Asst Adj/Audio Visual Coordinator	Gregory Agony	Post 12138
Assistant Quartermaster	George Barlett	Post 10154
Assistant Chaplain	Robert Correa	Post 2875
Chief of Staff	Randy Grant	Post 3292
Officer of the Day	Shon Antolin	Post 2875
Sergeant at Arms	Rodney Boucher	Post 12138
State Inspector	Randy Grant	Post 3292
Assistant Inspector	George Barlett	Post 10154
Assistant Inspector	Jame Schaedel	Post 12138
Assistant Inspector	Joshua Tauau	Post 12138
Parliamentarian	Randy Grant	Post 3292
State Legislative	Jame Schaedel	Post 12138
Auxiliary Liaison	George Barlett	Post 10154



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Oahu Veterans Council	Stanley Fernandez	Post 10276
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Department Service Officer	Raymond Loo	Post 10276
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Assistant Service Officer	Ernest Vesnefski	Post 2875
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Assistant Service Officer	Ben Fuata	Post 3830
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Assistant Service Officer	Rodney Boucher	Post 12138
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Assistant Service Officer	Maria B.I. Togia	Post 3391
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Chair of the Finance Committee (Sub-Committees: Budget, Audit, Investment, Ways and Means):	Lynn Mariano	Post 8616
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Chair of the Bylaw and Resolutions Committee:	Randy Grant	Post 3292
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Chair of the Community Activities Committee (Sub-Committees: Citizenship Education, VFW Day of Service, Loyalty Day, Student Veterans, National Home, POW/MIA, Buddy Poppy, Safety, Emergency Preparedness, Employment, Special Events):	George Barlett	Post 10154
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Chair of the Conventions Committee (Sub-Committees: Time and Place, National, Department):	Jame Schaedel	Post 12138
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Chair Programs Committee (Youth Activities, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Scouting, Student Military Programs, JROTC, ROTC, CAP, Veterans and Military Support, Hospital, Homeless Veteran)	Randy Grant	Post 3292
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Chair of the Social Media Committee (Website, Social Media):	Joshua Taueu	Post 12138
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Chair of the Public Affairs Committee (Newsletter and Public Relations)

Chelsea Mack

Post 3830

Chair of the Strategic Planning/Building Committee

Randy Grant

Post 3292

9. Removal and Appointment of Salaried Officers will be done in accordance with National and Departmental By-Laws.

10. National By-Laws stipulate that elected and appointed state officers shall not assume the duties of their office until proof of eligibility has been given and reviewed. Failure or refusal to send the same within thirty (30) days of election or appointment shall result in the office being declared vacant. Proof of eligibility will be submitted to the office of State Adjutant.

11. As members of the Council of Administration, Post Commanders, Post Senior Vice Commanders, and Post Junior Vice Commanders are required to submit proof of eligibility to the Department Adjutant.

12. Convention registration: Section 222 of the Manual of Procedure states each Post will pay, in advance, a National Convention registration fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) which shall entitle the Post to a packet of convention information and materials, and one identified registered delegate for the VFW National Convention. Each additional delegate attending the National Convention will pay a ten-dollar (\$10) delegate fee provided the Post has paid the mandated \$25 advance registration fee. All advance registrations should be mailed to the VFW National Headquarters, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. ATTN: Convention Registration, Quartermasters are strongly encouraged to register delegates utilizing the on-line membership system (OMS).

13. This year's COAs are scheduled for September 13, 2025, December 6, 2025, February 14, 2026 and June 14, 2026. The June 14, 2026, COA is contingent upon the dates of the next Department Convention.

14. Post Commanders are reminded that any Post in arrears to Department or National for fees, other financial obligations or administrative requirements including Election and Trustee Audit Reports will be deprived of representation at the Department or National Conventions and Council of Administration. These include up to date trustee reports, current election reports, proper bonding of officers, payment of delegate fees for both the Department and



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National Conventions and filing of 990's and current DCCA registration.

15. Any officer or committee member whose membership is not in good standing by reason of failure to pay current dues by their anniversary date shall forfeit eligibility to hold any office in that administrative year.

16. Each Post Officer accountable for funds or property pursuant to any provision of the National By-laws shall be bonded in amount and surety, shall be approved by their respective units. Bonding period runs from September 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026. This includes everyone that is a signatory on the banking/investment accounts.

17. Post Commanders shall submit Trustee Reports of Audit to the Department Quartermaster for 4th quarter ending June 30, 2025, 1st quarter ending September 30, 2025, 2nd quarter ending December 31, 2025, and 3rd quarter ending March 31, 2025. The deadline for the last Trustee Report will be April 30, 2026. Submitted Trustee's Reports need bank statements or other corroborating data attached.

18. Community Service Reporting: Post Adjutants are required to submit Community Service Reports on the All-American Dashboard quarterly. Total money expended, Volunteer Hours, Total Volunteers, Mileage, and Event Explanation are required for each volunteering opportunity. Reports may be sent to the Department and will be entered into the Dashboard for the Post.

19. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to the requirement of timely filing of Internal Revenue 990 and 990/T, where applicable.

20. Posts are urged to start planning suitable programs now for the observance of Veterans Day (Section 223 of the Manual of Procedure).

21. The distribution of VFW "Buddy Poppies" will be conducted according to provisions set forth in Sections 711 of the National ByLaws and the Manual of Procedure. Post Commanders should arrange now for the distribution of "Buddy Poppies". All profits accruing from the distribution of "Buddy Poppies" shall be used in accordance with Section 704 of the National ByLaws and the Manual of Procedure.

22. The State Commander, Quartermaster, and Adjutant will be informed of all official neighbor island trips.

23. The State Commander, National Councilmember, State Adjutant and Chief of Staff will be notified beforehand and cc'd on all reports and written correspondence sent to National HQ or sent for further distribution.



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By Order of:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Seal", written over a faint, stylized outline of a triangle.

Jason Seal.
State Commander

OFFICIAL:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "G. Barlett", written in a cursive style.

George Barlett
State Adjutant