

Western Region District Commanders

Pass this message on to your Base Commanders and have them forward it to their base members.

Please copy me when you forward this to your Base Commanders.

Regards,

VICTOR VANHORN

Western Region Director

Western Region Shipmates,

The Regional Directors are required by USSVI Constitution and Bylaws, Article XIII, Section 6 to conduct District Elections every two years during the odd numbered years. I will begin accepting nominations for the position of Western Region District Commanders commencing on March 1st and ending on April 30th. Voting will be conducted commencing on June 1st and ending on June 30th.

The results of the election will be announced at the 2021 Convention in ORLANDO, FL.

Nominations are to be sent to me at vmjvanhorn@aol.com or by postal mail to:

VICTOR VANHORN

14981 W. FAIRMOUNT AVE.

GOODYEAR, AZ. 85395

The requirements for nomination are listed below in a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws Article XIII, Section 6. Additionally, I have included a copy of Constitution and Bylaws Article XVII, Section 7 which lists the duties and responsibilities of the District Commanders.

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone or email. 708-609-9840 vmjvanhorn@aol.com

Thank you for all you do.

Fraternally,

VICTOR VANHORN

Western Regional Director

Article XIII Section 6. BIENNIAL ELECTION FOR DISTRICT COMMANDERS

A. The appropriate Regional Director shall conduct the District Elections every two (2) years during the odd numbered years.

B. The District Commander shall be the candidate receiving the most votes of the regular voting members in good standing within the District. The call for candidates shall begin on March 1st and the results shall be announced on September 1st of the election year. The Regional Director shall set the start and closing date for the election.

C. Each Base member within the district must have at least thirty (30) days to cast their written or electronic ballot.

D. In the case of a tie vote, the outcome shall be decided by a run-off election conducted by the Regional Director. The Regional Director shall retain the ballots for inspection until January 1st of the following year.

E. The Regional Director or any regular member in good standing within a District may nominate any other regular member in good standing living within the same District for District Commander of that District provided that: **1.** The Nominee is currently serving or has previously served as a Base officer. Currently serving District Commanders are eligible to continue to serve in their positions, irrespective of this requirement. **2.** The nomination is accompanied by a letter from the Nominee indicating that they have read and understand the requirements of the position and indicating their willingness to accept the nomination and willingness to serve, if elected. **3.** The Nomination Letter includes details of the Nominee's qualifications in less than one hundred (100) words.

F. Prior to or following the nomination, the Regional Director shall discuss the needs of the District with the candidate(s).

G. If no nominations are received, or if a vacancy occurs during the term of a District Commander, that vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the appropriate Regional Director, normally within ninety (90) days, to run until the next election cycle.

H. The Regional Director has the authority to terminate a sitting District Commander's term for non-performance or malfeasance, subject to approval by a majority vote of the District's Base Commanders.

Article XVII Section 7. DISTRICT COMMANDERS

The District Commander is directly responsible to the Regional Director for the conduct of organizational business within his/her district.

The duties of the District Commanders shall include:

A. Serving as non-voting members of the Board of Directors.

B. Assisting the Base Commanders within their respective districts in the performance of their duties, including providing assistance as required to ensure the proper operation of base meetings and events, recruiting and retention.

C. Appointing all District committee members, committee chairs and appointed officers as required to conduct District business.

- D. Representing his/her respective District at official functions.
- E. Assisting the Regional Director with the oversight of the performance of all Base Commanders within his/her district, the performance guidelines having been established by the Regional Director.
- F. Approving Base Bylaws, ensuring compliance with National and State laws regulating the operation of the Organization within his/her district (i.e. chartering, maintaining non-profit status, etc.).
- G. Actively promoting the establishment of new bases with the assistance of the New Base Development Committee (NBDC), including, with the assistance of the NBDC, sending to the Regional Director and National Junior Vice-Commander a report on the well-being of any new base six (6) months after it has been formed.
- H. Coordinating with their Regional Director to act, if needed, as liaison with other veteran organizations.
- I. Annually preparing a written report on the state of his/her District to be given to his/her Regional Director, with copies for publication in each of the District's Base Newsletters.
- J. If selected, serving as a member of the New Base Development Committee.
- K. Creating a quarterly newsletter for the Base Commanders within his/her District.
- L. Working up, keeping current and passing on immediately to his/her relief a "Turn Over" folder, including all official correspondence, records, and official materials assigned to his/her care.