

# **GATOR DETACHMENT 990**

**Marine Corps League**

**By Laws**

**February 25, 2012**

GATOR DETACHMENT 990  
Marine Corps League  
BY-LAWS

PREAMBLE

BE IT KNOWN THAT ON THE 24TH DAY OF MARCH 1998, WE, A BAND OF BROTHERS, FORGED IN THE FIRE OF THE CORPS OF UNITED STATES MARINES, DID ESTABLISH THE GATOR DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE. THE GATOR DETACHMENT IS A NON-PROFIT FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE FURTHERANCE OF COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE OF UNITED STATES MARINE TRADITIONS AND SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY AND COUNTRY. WE STRIVE TO PRESERVE THE ESPRIT AND COMRADERY OF OUR CORPS. WE REMAIN SEMPER FIDELIS.

ARTICLE I  
ORIENTATION

SECTION 100

A. NAME. : This detachment shall be known as the "GATOR DETACHMENT 990 OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE". The name reflects the pride in the local community for which the League provides support and from which the detachment draws its members. The name reflects the scope of the membership which is not limited to one city or county but rather the area of North Central Florida affectionately known as Gator Country.

B. DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT: 24 March 1998, the 223rd year of our Corps and the 222nd year of our Country.

C. LOCATION AND TIME OF MEETINGS: The Detachment Commandant shall ensure that the time and place of all general membership meetings are made known to the members and invited guests. The time and place

of the next general membership meeting will be published at least three (3) weeks prior to the subject meeting. The time and place will be determined by the Detachment Commandant and may change from time to time as necessary.

D. MAILING ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER: The Gator Detachment shall maintain an active mailing address and email address. These may be changed from time to time as required and will be published to the membership as necessary.

## ARTICLE II. MISSION

IT IS THE MISSION OF THE GATOR DETACHMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE TO PRESERVE THE TRADITIONS OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS, TO PROVIDE SERVICE AS CONCERNED CITIZENS TO OUR GATOR COMMUNITY AND OUR COUNTRY, AND FULFILL THE MISSION STATEMENT OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE.

## ARTICLE III. EXECUTION

### Section 300

A. GOALS: To pursue our mission the following goals are established for the Gator Detachment and all its members;

1. To preserve the traditions and promote the interests of the United States Marine Corps.
2. To band all Marines, active, reserve, retired or discharged, and all interested individuals together in fellowship.
3. To fit its members for duties of citizenship and promote the ideals of freedom and democracy.
4. To hold sacred the memories of those who have given their lives for their country and to preserve the history they made.
5. To aid voluntarily, all Marines, their families and our community.

6. To aid all veterans and veterans issues that present themselves in the Gator community.

7. To observe historical anniversaries on all occasions of special meaning to Marines.

8. To observe historical anniversaries of significance to all veterans on the occasions of special meaning to all veterans.

#### B. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

1. General membership meetings will be held on a regular basis, time and place to be published to the membership.

2. General membership meetings will be held in compliance with National Marine Corps League guidelines and Roberts Rules of Order.

3. Only members in good standing or prospective members may attend meetings, except where the Commandant declares the meeting open to the public and authorized guests.

4. Special meetings of the General Membership may be called at any time by the Commandant, as long as the membership is provided at least three (3) weeks notice prior notice of the meeting.

5. Special meetings of committees or of the Board of Trustees may be held as required upon proper notification of the members of the group meeting at least one (1) week prior to said meeting.

6. At all meetings of the general membership of the Gator Detachment 990, the Detachment Charter, the National Colors, the Marine Corps Colors and a Bible should be displayed at all times the Detachment meeting is in progress.

7. At least ten regular members in good standing of the Gator Detachment 990 need to be present at the meeting to establish a quorum for business to be conducted.

8. Voting. (a). Regular members and associate members may participate and vote on all matters that may, from time to time, come before the membership, however associate members cannot vote in the annual election of officers or membership applications.

(b). Associate members will not count toward the meeting of a quorum necessary to conduct business.

(c). Proxy voting and or absentee voting is not allowed at any time.

## C. FUNDING

### 1. DUES:

(a) Payment of dues will be consolidated with National and Department Marine Corps Leagues dues. The Detachment Paymaster will collect all dues and disperse moneys to the National and Department organizations as required.

(b) The Gator Detachment shall make every effort to keep dues at a minimum.

2. BANK ACCOUNT : The Gator Detachment shall maintain a bank account. Such account shall require two officers to authorize expenditures, normally the Detachment Commandant and Paymaster or another Board of Trustee member.

### 3. EXPENDITURES:

(a) The Commandant may authorize expenditures up to \$100.00. Expenditures in excess of \$100.00 must be approved by the Board of Trustees prior to the expenditure being made.

(b) Expenditures in excess of \$100.00 originating from the membership must be presented to the Board of Trustees at least one week prior to the meeting of the Board of Trustees which proceeds the meeting of the membership where it will be offered for vote.

(c) Expenditures in excess of \$200.00 must be presented to the Board of Trustees at least one week prior to meeting of the Board of Trustees which proceeds the meeting of the membership where it will be offered for a vote. The Board of Trustees will evaluate the request and prepare a report to the membership reflecting the nature of the expenditure regarding the mission of the Marine Corps League and Gator Detachment 990. This report will also address the effects on the budget of the Detachment.

### 4. BUDGET

(a) The annual budget will be prepared by the Budget Committee and submitted for a vote of approval by the General Membership.

(b) The proposed budget shall be presented to the General Membership at a regularly scheduled meeting that occurs at least three (3) weeks prior to the meeting where it will be voted on by the General Membership.

(c) The Budget Committee will be appointed by the Commandant with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees.

(d) The fiscal year of the Detachment shall run from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

## 5 FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES

(a) All fund raising for, by or connected in any way with the Gator Detachment 990 must be approved by the Board of Trustees, or the General Membership during a properly scheduled meeting of the membership, prior to the commencement of any such activities.

(b) Any fund raising activity will comport with the goals and purposes of the Gator Detachment 990.

(c) Any fund raising activity shall comply with all of the Marine Corps League National, Department and Detachment rules and regulations for such activities. All National, State and Local Ordinances shall be complied with and all required licenses and permissions shall be acquired prior to the commencement of such activities.

(d) All funds raised will be deposited into the Detachment Bank Account and records maintained of all expenses connected to the fund raising.

(e) Reimbursement of expenses must be authorized by the Commandant and Paymaster or by general consensus of the membership prior to the expenditure. Reimbursement of expenses may be pre-authorized when appropriate.

6. BONDING OF OFFICERS: All persons who handle money for the Gator Detachment must be bonded. The Detachment Commandant and Paymaster are automatically covered under a blanket bond paid for by national headquarters. Any other member of the Detachment Authorized to handle funds will also be covered by the blanket bond paid for by national headquarters. They will be so designated by the in writing by the Detachment Commandant prior to handling any Detachment Funds.

7. CONTRACTING AUTHORITY: The Detachment Commandant has authority to enter the Gator Detachment into contracts for services. All contracts for more than \$100.00 must be approved by the Board of Trustees and vote of the

General Membership during a properly scheduled meeting of the Detachment, prior to their taking effect.

## ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATION

### SECTION 400 OFFICERS AND DUTIES

A. **DETACHMENT COMMANDANT:** The Detachment Commandant directs all Gator Detachment activities within the community, conducts all Gator Detachment meetings, and serves as advisor to all committees. This officer administers the oath to all new members and conducts the installation of new officers. This officer ensures that all activities of the Gator Detachment comport with the goals and mission of the Gator Detachment, Department of Florida Marine Corps League and the National Marine Corps League.

B. **DETACHMENT SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT:** The Detachment Senior Vice Commandant shall assist the Detachment Commandant in all his duties. This officer shall take over in the absence of the Detachment Commandant those duties necessary for the normal function of the Detachment. This officer shall perform such other duties as required by the Commandant.

C. **DETACHMENT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDANT:** The Detachment Junior Vice Commandant shall create and promulgate such programs and incentives as are necessary to ensure the growth of the membership of the Gator Detachment. This officer shall be prepared to assume the role of the Senior Vice Commandant or Commandant if the need arises. This officer shall perform such other duties as required by the Commandant.

D. **DETACHMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE:** The Detachment Judge Advocate shall be the official interpreter of all bylaws from the Detachment, Department or National organizations. This officer shall advise the Commandant on all issues of procedure or regulation. This officer shall act as the investigator or judge as provided in other sections of these bylaws. This officer shall perform such other duties as required by the Commandant.

E. DETACHMENT ADJUTANT: The Detachment Adjutant shall keep a true record of all meetings (minutes). This officer shall keep record of all correspondence of the Gator Detachment. This officer shall assist the Paymaster in compiling membership roles and records. This officer shall maintain a Table of Organization including all officers and committees. This officer shall perform such other duties as required by the Commandant.

F. DETACHMENT PAYMASTER: The Detachment Paymaster shall keep a true and accurate record of all monies received and dispersed by the Gator Detachment. This officer advises the Commandant on all financial matters. This officer maintains the bank account for the detachment. This officer maintains an accurate record of all member status as to the payment of dues and informs members when they have become delinquent in their dues. This officer performs such other duties as the Commandant may direct.

G. DETACHMENT CHAPLAIN: The Detachment Chaplain shall perform all duties as prescribed in ritual and take an active part in all funeral and memorial services in which the detachment participates. This officer shall provide the spiritual leadership for the detachment and performs such other duties as the Commandant may direct.

H. DETACHMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: The Detachment Sergeant at Arms will preserve order and decorum at all meetings and gatherings of the Gator Detachment. This officer will perform all ritualistic duties required and such other duties as the Commandant may direct.

#### I. PAST DETACHMENT COMMANDANT

1. Jr. Past Commandant. Shall be appointed by the present Detachment Commandant and may be either the immediate past Detachment Commandant or any past Detachment Commandant and he/she will serve as a member of the Board or Trustees for a period of one year.

2. If there is no past Detachment Commandant to fill the Jr. Past Commandant position, then the Detachment Commandant, with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees may appoint any regular member, in good standing, to serve on the Board of trustees.



J. DETACHMENT HISTORIAN: The Detachment Historian maintains a continuous historical record of the Gator Detachment including all significant events. The historical record should contain pictures, video or sound recordings when available.

K. DETACHMENT QUARTERMASTER: The Detachment Quartermaster shall assist in the procurement of uniform items and other material as required by the Gator Detachment and its members. This officer shall perform other duties as directed by the Detachment Commandant.

L. DETACHMENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER: This officer will direct all liaison efforts with the media. This officer shall instruct all other members on proper dealings with the press.

#### SECTION 410. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A. ELIGIBILITY: Any regular member in good standing may hold elected office.

B. TERM OF OFFICE: Elected Officers shall serve a term of one year commencing on the date of Installation of the Detachment Officers, remaining in office until relieved by the next Installation of Officers.

C. TERM LIMITS: Officers holding elected office may be reelected for a second term by simple majority of the members present at a properly scheduled meeting of the General Membership at which a quorum is present. Officers serving a third or later consecutive term may only serve another term if elected by a vote of 75% of the membership present at a properly scheduled meeting of the General Membership at which a quorum is present.

D. NOMINATIONS: To run for election a candidate must be nominated by another regular member in good standing. A nominating committee may be formed by the Commandant, usually chaired by a Past Commandant. Nominations shall be from the floor of the meeting during new business. Nominations may also be submitted in writing to the Detachment Judge Advocate to be entered by him or

her at the general meeting. Such written nominations to the Detachment Judge Advocate must be received by the Detachment Judge Advocate prior to the general meeting where they will be presented or they will be considered invalid due to lack of timely submission. All nominations shall be accepted by the nominee from the floor during the meeting of the General Membership where the nomination has been made.

E. ELECTED OFFICES: The following officers are elected each year:

1. DETACHMENT COMMANDANT
2. DETACHMENT SENIOR VICE COMMANDANT
3. DETACHMENT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDANT
4. DETACHMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE

F. SEQUENCE OF ELECTIONS:

1. Nominations: Nominations shall made during the January general membership meeting. At this time nominees shall be allowed to make a short statement of their position or intent to the general meeting. The Adjutant will ensure that each nominee is a member in good standing and that the nominee consents to serve if elected. At the February general membership meeting, any final nominations may be taken prior to the beginning of the election process. Once again the Adjutant will ensure all nominees are in good standing and will serve if elected.

2. Elections for Officers will be held annually at the February meeting of the General Membership at which a quorum is present.

3. Elections:

(a). The election will be performed by a Past Detachment Commandant, a Department Officer or the Detachment Commandant.

(b). For any contested elections, this Election Officer will invite three members in good standing to assist. The vote may be conducted using a simple voice vote. If a voice vote is taken, the assisting members must concur that the voice vote satisfied the voting requirement of a majority (or 75% majority if needed.) If a voice vote is determined to be inconclusive, the Election Officer will conduct either a vote by show of hands or a paper ballot vote. The method is left to the discretion of the Election Officer. The assisting members must confirm the results of the vote.

(c). For uncontested elections, the Election Officer will submit the sole nominee for each position to the Detachment Adjutant, who will record the sole nomination and then cast one unanimous vote for the nominee. The Election Officer will then announce the nominee has been elected by acclamation.

(d). Voting.

(1). Only regular members, in good standing, of the Gator Detachment 990 of the Marine Corps League may vote in the election of officers.

(2). No new members may be sworn in during the same meeting as the election of new officers.

(3). A quorum of 12 regular members, in good standing, of the Gator Detachment 990 of the Marine Corps League must be present at the meeting of the membership to conduct an election of officers.

(4). Absentee or proxy voting will apply as addressed in section 300 herein.

4. Installation of elected officers:

Officers shall be installed during the next general membership meeting following the election meeting. The Installation will be conducted by a Past Commandant, a Department Officer, or the Detachment Commandant. The installation shall be conducted in accordance with policies and procedures of the National By Laws and Administrative Procedures.

5. Report of installation:

Must be forwarded to the Department Adjutant no later than 15 days after the installation of officers with sufficient copies as prescribed by the Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

## Section 420 APPOINTED OFFICERS

A. The following officers shall be appointed by the Detachment Commandant, with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees. Appointments are made for each election term. These officers serve at the pleasure of the current Detachment Commandant.

1. DETACHMENT ADJUTANT
2. DETACHMENT PAYMASTER
3. DETACHMENT CHAPLAIN
4. DETACHMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

B. The following officers may be appointed by the Detachment Commandant, with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees. Appointments are made for each election term. These officers serve at the pleasure of the current Detachment Commandant

1. DETACHMENT HISTORIAN
2. DETACHMENT QUARTERMASTER
3. DETACHMENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
4. ANY OTHER APPOINTED OFFICER DEEMED APPROPRIATE

#### SECTION 440 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees shall consist of the elected officers and the most recent Past Commandant. The Board of Trustees provides oversight to the Gator Detachment. Where legally binding decisions are required, each Board Member shall have an equal vote except as otherwise provided for in these bylaws and those of the National Marine Corps League.

#### SECTION 450 COMMITTEES

A. **STANDING COMMITTEES:** From time to time it may be necessary to establish permanent committees. As the need arises, such committees may be established by recommendation of the Detachment Commandant with concurrence of the Board of Trustees. Such standing committees shall have an elected officer as Chairman. The committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Detachment Commandant and may be removed by petition to the Board of Trustees.

B. **SPECIAL COMMITTEES:** From time to time it may be necessary to establish non-permanent committees. As the need arises such committees may be established by the Detachment Commandant with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees, and with the Chairmen appointed at the time of establishment. These committees will remain in place until their function is completed. The chairman and committee members shall serve at the pleasure of the Detachment Commandant and may be removed by petition to the Board of Trustees.

C. **BIRTHDAY BALL COMMITTEE:** There shall be a permanent Birthday Ball Committee.

1. MEMBERSHIP: Its membership shall include, at a minimum, a Chairman, the Past Commandant, the Detachment Paymaster and the Present Commandant. Other members may be appointed as required.

2. DUTIES: They will ensure a proper location is selected, all reservations, printing, ticketing and other arrangements are completed in a timely manner.

3. POWERS: The Birthday Ball Committee shall be empowered to make commitments for the Gator Detachment as to reservations of location and all other expenses reasonably associated with the Birthday Ball.

4. BUDGET: The Birthday Ball Chairman is accountable to the Commandant and the detachment for responsible use of detachment funds in providing a birthday ball celebration. The Chairman will consult with the Commandant on all expenses

#### D. MARINE OF THE YEAR SOCIETY.

1. The membership of the Detachment Marine of the Year Society shall consist of all past recipients of the Detachment Marine of the Year Award.

2. Members of the Detachment Marine of the Year Society must be current members in good standing of the Marine Corps League and the Gator Detachment 990.

3. Members of the Detachment Marine of the Year Society shall meet as necessary to review all nominations for the next Detachment Marine of the Year award.

4. The Detachment Marine of the Year Society shall follow and be guided by the National By Laws and Administrative Procedures and the Department By laws and Administrative Procedures.

5. The membership of the Detachment Marine of the Year shall consist of a minimum of three members. If there does not exist enough qualified members of the detachment to form a Detachment Marine of the Year Society, then the Detachment Commandant shall appoint the Detachment Senior Vice Commandant to form a committee to select the next Detachment Marine of the Year nominee to be presented to the Detachment membership for a vote. If after appointing the Senior Vice Commandant to the Committee, there still does not exist three (3) members, the Detachment Vice Commandant shall then solicit additional members to serve as the society.

6. The Detachment Marine of the Year nominee shall be presented to the Detachment for an up or down vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Detachment, as required by the National Marine of the Year Society requirements. This vote shall take place at such a time that will allow the Detachment Marine of the Year to be nominated as the Detachment's candidate for Department Marine of the Year.

7. The Detachment Commandant shall not be a member of the Detachment Marine of the Year Society solely by virtue of his being Detachment Commandant.

#### SECTION 460 REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

A. Once an individual has been accepted a member in good standing by the Detachment membership, that member may not be removed from the Detachment rolls except for cause or by that member requesting transfer.

B. Any elected or appointed officer who has three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from properly called meetings of the Detachment or The Board of Trustees or a total of five (5) unexcused absences during the term of said officer, the officer may be removed by the Detachment Commandant, with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees, for abandoning the office. This may be accomplished without the necessity of a formal Petition for Removal.

C. If any member in good standing has a grievance against a Detachment Officer they may file such with the Department Judge Advocate. Such grievance shall be filed using the procedures outlined in the National By Laws and Administrative Procedures. The grievance shall also be copied to the respondent, the Department Commandant and the National Judge Advocate.

D. If any member in good standing has a grievance against a Detachment member they may file such with the Department Judge Advocate. Such grievance shall be filed using the procedures outlined in the National By Laws and Administrative Procedures. The grievance shall also be copied to the respondent, the Department Commandant and the National Judge Advocate.

#### SECTION 470 VACANCY OF ELECTED OFFICE.

Should the office of the Detachment Commandant or the Senior Vice Commandant become vacant, shall be filled by the next junior elected officer. The Judge Advocate does not move up. The Commandant, with the consent of the

Board of Trustees, shall appoint a regular member, in good standing, to fill the vacated position of the Jr. Vice Commandant or the Judge Advocate to serve for the remainder of the term of the vacancy.

#### SECTION 480 MEMBERSHIP:

A. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP: The Gator Detachment is solely responsible for establishment of its own membership. Membership requirements will be in accordance with National Marine Corps League by-laws. For definitions, rights and responsibilities of each membership category refer to section 600 of the National Bylaws.

1. REGULAR MEMBERSHIPS
2. LIFE MEMBERSHIPS
3. MEMBERS AT LARGE
4. DUAL MEMBERSHIP
5. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

B. RELEASE OF MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: Membership information is PROPRIETARY INFORMATION for the exclusive use of administering the Detachment. The Detachment membership listing may not otherwise be sold, leased, copied, loaned, assigned, given or used without express permission, in writing, from the Board of Trustees prior to such use being granted.

C. APPLICATIONS: Applications for membership must be forwarded to the National Headquarters, as specified in the Department and National Marine Corps League By Laws and Administrative Procedures. Any member may sponsor an applicant as a prospective member. Once the applicant is verified as eligible by an officer the sponsor will introduce the applicant to the membership at a general meeting. If a quorum is present a vote will be taken to admit the applicant. A simple majority vote of the quorum will suffice to allow the new membership.

D. ELIGIBILITY: Any Marine serving on active duty or having served on active duty for a minimum of 90 days or Fleet Marine Force Corpsman or a reservist with 90 Reserve Credit Points is eligible for regular membership. Any applicant shall be able to prove that they have served honorably as defined in

Section 600 of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the Marine Corps League prior to being accepted for membership buy the Detachment. A current DD 214 or other appropriate document must be inspected by a Detachment Officer prior to the swearing in by the Detachment Commandant.

E. GOOD STANDING - A member is in good standing when his or her dues are paid and current, and is not subject to discipline from any MC League organization.

F. DELINQUENT MEMBERS - Any member owing dues to the National, Department or Gator Detachment is delinquent and loses all rights and privileges of a member in good standing. No transfer of members may be made when they are delinquent.

G. TRANSFER OF MEMBERS - The Detachment transferring a member to another Detachment will provide writing acknowledgment of that members good standing to the new detachment.

H. INELIGIBILITY - If there is a question as to eligibility of a member such question must be submitted in writing to the Detachment Commandant. The Detachment Commandant will assign the Detachment Judge Advocate to investigate the question of eligibility. If after such investigation it is found that the member is not eligible he or she will be dropped from the roles immediately and notice made in a timely manner to the department. If the question relates to a member at large the reasons for dismissal shall be forwarded in writing to the National Commandant. If the person being investigated is the Detachment Commandant the Senior Vice Commandant will handle the request. If the person being investigated is the Detachment Judge Advocate the Past Commandant will conduct the investigation.

I. MEMBERS RIGHTS - Members in good standing are eligible for all rights provided in these bylaws and all rights granted by the National and Department bylaws. Included in these rights is the right to be heard at meetings, to vote at elections and on issues, to wear the uniform and be accorded all honors of membership.



J. MEMBERS DUTIES - Members are required to comport themselves in a manner so as to bring credit upon themselves, the Marine Corps League and the United States Marine Corps. Members are required to help, to the best of their ability, any Marine in need or to serve their community, to the best of their ability, when a need arises.

ARTICLE V.  
COMMAND AND SIGNAL

SECTION 500. CHAIN OF COMMAND: The Gator Detachment of the Marine Corps League is part of the Department of Florida, Southeast Division and the National Marine Corps League.

SECTION 510. REPORTS

A. MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS: All reports shall be kept for a period of three years unless otherwise indicated. Records of historical significance may be kept indefinitely.

B. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS - A report of Officers and installation must be forwarded to the Department Adjutant within 15 days of the installation. The report should include the date of installation, the names of the Officers installed with their addresses and phone numbers. The report should be signed by the Detachment Adjutant.

C. OFFICERS REPORTS - Officers will make reports as required. The Adjutant and Paymaster should be prepared to make reports each month at the General Membership Meeting. Such reports may be verbal as long as the Detachment Adjutant makes record in the minutes of the meeting.

D. COMMITTEE REPORTS - Committee Chairmen will provide reports as necessary. Such reports may be verbal unless otherwise directed by the Detachment Commandant.

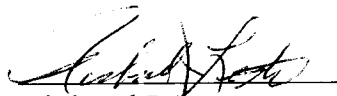
E. MINUTES OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS - The Detachment Adjutant will make written minutes of each General Membership

Meeting. If the Adjutant cannot be present at any given meeting the Detachment Commandant will appoint a surrogate for that meeting.

SECTION 530. NEWSLETTER: The Gator Detachment will strive to publish a monthly newsletter to keep all members informed of current events in the detachment.

SECTION 540. CERTIFICATION OF BYLAWS: These bylaws have been certified by vote of the general membership this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012 and become effective upon the signing of two officers as witnesses to the certification, subject to subsequent certification by the Judge Advocate, Department of Florida.

SECTION 550. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS: These bylaws may be amended by a two thirds majority vote of the membership quorum present at any properly scheduled meeting to the General Membership. Proposed changes to the bylaws must be submitted to the general membership at least three weeks prior to being voted on. All proposed changes must be presented in open forum to the general membership.



Richard Lester  
Commandant



John Murdoch  
Judge Advocate