**Constitution of Sons of The American Legion
*Number(th)* District attached to the**

***Number(th)* District, The American Legion,
Department of Texas.**

**PREAMBLE**

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of All Wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of The American Legion' for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in All Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy- to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the Sons of The American Legion, Tenth District, attached to The American Legion, ***Number*** District, Department of Texas.

**ARTICLE II - NATURE**

**Section 1.** The Sons of The American Legion, ***Number*** District, attached to The American Legion, ***Number*** District, Department of Texas, is a civilian organization. Membership therein does not affect nor increase liability for military or police service.

**Section 2.** The District shall be absolutely nonpolitical and shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principles nor for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

**Section 3.** The District shall be absolutely non-sectarian.

**Section 4.** Each member shall perform his full duty as a citizen according to his own conscience and understanding, in accord with the law.

**ARTICLE III – ORGANIZATION**

**Section 1.** This District is organized as a subordinate body of the Sons of The American Legion, Detachment of Texas and under the sponsorship and jurisdiction of ***Number(th)*** District, Department
of Texas, The American Legion.

**Section 2.** This District shall be governed by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Detachment Headquarters, approved by the Department Executive Committee of The American Legion, and by such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by its sponsoring District of The American Legion, not inconsistent with those prescribed by the National Organization.

**Section 3.** All Squadrons chartered and certified by the Detachment of Texas and the Sons of The American Legion National Organization whose American Legion Post falls under the jurisdiction of the ***Number***  District shall be considered members of said District.

**ARTICLE IV - ELIGIBILITY**

**Section 1.** All male descendants, adopted sons, and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I, and December 7, 1941, to date, as set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion, or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the Sons of The American Legion.

**Section 2**. There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership.

**ARTICLE V - OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The elected Officers of this District shall be a Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, Adjutant, Finance Officer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Historian and such other Officers as may be deemed necessary.

**Section 2.** All Officers shall be elected Bi-annually at the Spring Convention of the District. Said Officers shall serve for a period of two years or until their successors are duly installed. Only members holding current calendar year membership cards shall have the privilege of vote in said election.

**ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1.** Between District meetings, the administrative power of the District shall be vested in the District Executive Committee.

**Section 2.** The voting members shall consist of all elective District Officers, the immediate Past District Commander, the Squadron Commanders or the designated representative of the Squadron within the Distric. However, no voting member shall cast more than one vote at the District Meeting.

**Section 3.** All other Past District Commanders shall be members of the Executive Committee without vote.

**Section 4**. Only members in good standing will be privileged to participate in the business of a meeting, vote or hold office.

**ARTICLE VII – DISCIPLINE**

**Section 1.** A member of this District may only be disciplined in accordance with the Department of Texas Uniform Code of Procedures and Supplement 1.

**Section 2.** Any Officer may be removed or suspended for cause by a two-third (2/3) vote of the District Executive Committee, provided that the said officer shall have been served with a sworn statement of the complaint at least fifteen (15) days before the vote is to be taken and until such officer shall have the opportunity to be heard at the meeting called to take the vote, and shall be subject to appeal to the Detachment Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE VIII – CONVENTION**

**Section 1.** The District shall hold a least one (1) convention each year at the call of the District Commander, and such convention shall conform to the requirements of the Detachment Constitution.

**Section 2**. The exact time shall be fixed by the District Commander and be held at the same site as The American Legion ***Number***  District Convention.

**Section 3**. District Conventions shall be composed of **(a)** the District Commander and District Officers, none of whom shall be entitled to a vote unless duly elected as a delegate to the convention by his Squadron and **(b)** the duly elected delegates from each Squadron within the District.

**Section 4.** At the District Convention, each Squadron shall be entitled to one (1) Delegate, and one (1) Alternate Delegate for every ten (10) members, or major fraction thereof, provided such delegates and alternates shall be members of the Squadron electing them. Delegate strength shall be determined by membership turned in to the Detachment thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the District Convention

**Section 5**. Each Delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by a majority of the delegates present from his Squadron and in the absence of all accredited delegates or alternates from a Squadron, then the vote or votes are forfeited. No voting member shall cast more than one (1) vote on any item at the Detachment Convention.

**ARTICLE IX – BYLAWS**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be governed according to the Bylaws adopted at conventions and said Bylaws are not to conflict with the provisions of this Constitution or the Constitution of the Detachment of Texas or the National Sons of The American Legion.

**ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** This Constitution is adopted, subject to the provision of the National Constitution and the Detachment constitution of which this District is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment Constitutions, which is in conflict with any provision hereof, shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of this Constitution, to the extent of such conflict.

**Section 2.** This Constitution may be amended at any District Meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members attending such regular meeting, provided, that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing.

**Bylaws of Sons of The American Legion *Number(th)* District attached to The American Legion, *Number(th)* District, Department of Texas.**

**ARTICLE I – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1.** Between District meetings, the administrative power of the District shall be vested in the District Executive Committee, which shall consist of all elective District Officers, the immediate Past District Commander, the Squadron Commanders or the designated representative of each Squadron within the District.

**Section 2.** The regular and special meetings of the District Executive Committee shall be held at such place and time as prescribed by the District Commander, which may be transacted such business as may properly be brought up for action.

**Section 3.** The District Commander shall have power to call a special meeting of the District Executive Committee at any time, upon giving at least fifteen (15) days written notice of the time, place and purpose of same to all District Officers and Squadrons of the ***Number(th)*** District.

**Section 4**. Upon the written petition presented to the District Commander by not less than five (5) members of the District Executive Committee or Squadrons, requesting a special meeting of the District Executive Committee shall be held within not less than fifteen (15) days and no more than thirty (30) days after receipt of said petition. Said call shall be in writing to all members of the District Executive Committee and all Squadron of the ***Number(th)*** District, and shall state the time, place and purpose of said special meeting. In the event that the District Commander, after receipt of such request, fails to call said special meeting, then the District Adjutant shall call said special meeting.

**Section 5**. All meetings of the District Executive Committee shall be open.

**Section 6.** The District Executive Committee shall fill any District Officer vacancy occurring between the annual District meetings for the remainder of the unexpired term.

**Section 7.** Any District Officer may be removed for inefficiency by the District Executive Committee, a two-thirds vote of the said committee being necessary to effect such removal. A District Officer who absents himself for three or more consecutive District Executive Committee meetings can, on due investigation, by the District Executive Committee, be held to be sufficient proof of inefficiency, warranting such removal.

**ARTICLE II – ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** At the Spring District Convention of the even numbered year the delegates present will elect officers. Any member in good standing may make a nomination for any elected office from the floor or by resolution of endorsement from any Squadron in the District.

**Section 2.** At the conclusion of nominations for each officer the District Commander will call for the vote of those candidates for that office, or by direction of Robert Rules of Order Revised proclaim the office filled by acclamation. The Commander will call for the election of the Commander, Vice Commander(s), Adjutant, Finance Officer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain, Historian and Judge Advocate.

**Section 3.** Any member in good standing of a Squadron within the ***Number(th)*** District shall be eligible to hold office in this District.

**Section 4.** Those officers shall be declared elected who have by ballot received a majority of the votes of the delegates present at the annual meeting. The newly elected officer shall take office immediately and shall be installed by the proper authority.

**Section 5.** Any certified delegate holding a paid membership card for the current membership year from a certified Squadron of the ***Number(th)*** District shall be considered a voting member.

**ARTICLE III – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The Commander shall be the executive head of this District of the Sons of The American Legion, with full power to enforce the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws and the policies and mandates of the National and Detachment of the Son of The American Legion and of the Executive Committee of the District.

**Section 2.** The First Vice Commander shall act as representative of the Commander on all matters referred to them by him, and shall, on his request, preside over the meetings. He shall be in charge of membership and shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

**Section 3.** The Second Vice Commander shall likewise act as representative of the Commander, and he shall specifically be in charge of District activities. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

**Section 4.** The Adjutant shall be charged with the administrative duties required in carrying out the policies and mandates of the National and Detachment of the Sons of The American Legion and of the Executive Committee of this District.

**Section 5.** The Finance Officer shall be charged with the receiving and disbursing of the funds of the District and shall make reports upon the condition of the District treasury at all meetings. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

**Section 6.** The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be charged with the responsibility of preserving order at all District meetings and shall be given the custody of the District Colors. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incident to the office.

**Section 7.** The Chaplain shall perform such divine and nonsectarian service as may be necessary; adhering to such ceremonial rituals as may be prescribed.

**Section 8**. The Historian shall collect from year to year all records and data of value and interest to the Sons of The American Legion and The American Legion, and shall compile during his term of office a complete history of the year's activities.

**Section 9.** The Judge Advocate shall ensure that parliamentary procedures are followed at all District meetings, shall supply professional advice in the conduct of the District business or to procure proper counsel, shall be responsible for the orderly conduct of all disciplinary procedures. He shall serve as the Chairman of any committee concerning the District Constitution and Bylaws revisions. He shall be in charge of the annual audit of the District financial accounts.

**Section 10.** All officers of the Sons of The American Legion in the performance of their duties shall be governed by The American Legion at the appropriate level. All actions of the Sons of The American Legion at the District level, intermediate level, and at the Detachment level shall be subject to review and ratification at the appropriate level of The American Legion.

**ARTICLE IV – DISTRICT SAL ADVISOR**

**Section 1.** The Commander of the ***Number(th)*** District, Department of Texas, The American Legion, shall appoint an Advisor to advise the activities of the ***Number(th)*** District, Sons of The American Legion.

**ARTICLE V – STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Section 1.** Upon nomination of the District Commander, the Executive Committee shall annually appoint such standing committee as it shall deem advisable for the benefit of the membership of the District as a whole.

**ARTICLE VI - FINANCE**

**Section 1.** All funds of the Sons of The American Legion ***Number(th)*** District will be the custody and care of The American Legion, ***Number(th)*** District Finance Officer.

**ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The regular stated Membership meeting of this Squadron shall be held at a date and time set by the Executive Committee of the Districrt.

**Section 2.** Special meetings shall be called upon the majority vote of the Executive Committee or upon written request of ***Number*** Squadron members.

**Section 3.** Notice of all special meetings of the Squadron shall be sent to each Squadron member and/or posted on the Squadron bulletin board seventy two (72) hours prior to the holding of such meeting and at least one (1) month in advance of the holding the annual meeting.

**Section 4.** Notice of special meetings shall state the object and purpose thereof, and no other business shall be transacted at such special meeting except for such business as is contained in the notice thereof.

**Section 5.** The notice of special meetings shall state the object and purpose thereof, and no business shall be transacted at such special meeting except for such business as is contained in the notice thereof.

**Section 6.** The Executive Committee shall meet for organization and such business as may come before it as often as said Commander may deem necessary. The Commander shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee upon the written request of five members of the committee.

**Section 7.** In the event a public emergency or natural disaster makes the holding of an in-person meeting unlawful or impossible, the post may conduct its meeting by electronic or other remote access means as reasonably necessary for the duration of the emergency or disaster.

1. The District shall use its best efforts to implement any such virtual meetings with full regard for the need to maintain as much as possible accessibility for all members, including those with disabilities and those who lack the access to sophisticated technology.
2. Any action that could be taken at an in-person meeting, including amendment of the constitution and by-laws, may also be taken at a virtual meeting held pursuant to this provision.
3. Any action taken at any such virtual meeting shall be ratified at the first regular in-person Squadron meeting.
4. During a virtual meeting, the Squadron adjutant shall ensure that all participants are members in good standing and that a quorum is present.
5. The District Commander shall determine the need for a virtual meeting.
6. If there is a vote, the Adjutant must make a record of the vote and ensure that every voter is sufficiently identified and a member of the Squadron in good standing.

**ARTICLE VII - QUORUM**

**Section 1.** One Presiding District Officer and (3) Squadrons Commanders or the designated representative of the Squadron, shall constitute a quorum for the legal transaction of business at any meeting of the District.

**ARTICLE IX – RULES OF ORDER**

**Section 1.** The procedure at all District meetings shall be governed by Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

**ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** These Bylaws are adopted subject to the provisions of the National and Detachment Bylaws, of which this District is a subordinate member. Any amendment to the National or Detachment Bylaws which is in conflict with any provision hereof shall be regarded as automatically repealing or modifying the provisions of these Bylaws to the extent of such conflict.

 **Section 2.** These Bylaws may be amended at any regular District meeting by vote of two-thirds of the members attending such regular meeting, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted in writing.

**DISTRICT CERTIFICATION**

We, the following Officers of Sons of The American Legion ***Number(th)*** District, Detachment of Texas, Sons of The American Legion, hereby certify that the foregoing Constitution and By-Laws, after due notice was given to all members, was adopted at a regular meeting of this District held on the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_, A. D.

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  **DISTRICT COMMANDER** ATTESTED:  **DISTRICT ADJUTANT**

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**DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION**

Passed on by the Department Judge Advocate on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,20\_\_\_, A. D., and Approved by the Department Executive Committee on the \_\_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_, A. D.

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 **DEPARTMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE**