

DETACHMENT 141 WESTFIELD RIVER VALLEY MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

BYLAWS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

2012 EDITION

Westfield River Valley Detachment of the Marine Corps League, Inc.

Preamble

In the name of the beneficent God of all, we who have honorably served, or are now honorably serving our Country in the United States Marine Corps, for the common good of this Nation, and all nations and people of the world, and in order that the fundamental rights and freedom of every person may be preserved, to foster interest in the affairs of the United States Marine Corps, to protect and advance the welfare of the wounded and disabled Marines, FMF Corpsmen and their dependents, and for the further purposes set forth hereinafter, do solemnly and firmly associate ourselves together in a nonprofit corporation known as the Westfield River Valley Detachment of the Marine Corps League, Inc. and order and establish these bylaws and administrative procedures.

Westfield River Valley Detachment 141

Marine Corps League



COMMITTEE 2012

- 1. Donald Rivette
- 2. Roger Beer
- 3. Francis Curnow
- 4. William Fisher
- 5. Daniel Bishop
- 6. Sophie Bartosik

Judge Advocate Jr. Vice Commandant Member/Past Commandant Member Member

CERTIFICATION

I Donald Rivette, Detachment 141 Judge Advocate, Marine Corps League do hereby certify this revised 2012 edition of Bylaws and Administrative Procedures was approved by all members present at the monthly detachment meeting of December 10, 2012 in the city of Westfield, Massachusetts with a hand vote. Furthermore, that all previous copies of Detachment 141 Bylaws and Administrative Procedures shall be considered obsolete.

//Signed// Donald Rivette

Attested; ____//Signed//____

John S. Rutovich, Commandant

Approved

//Signed// Department Judge Advocate

BYLAWS ARTICLE I

Section 1. NAME

The name of the body corporate is, Westfield River Valley Detachment of the Marine Corps League, Inc. and is a subsidiary organization of the Department of Massachusetts, New England Division, <u>National Marine Corps League</u>, which by its authority issued this detachment a charter on November 28, 1945 signed by the National Commandant Thomas Sweeney and National Adjutant/Paymaster Stephen Brown.

Section 2. COMPLIANCE

Detachment 141 Bylaws and Administrative Procedures shall conform to all the bylaws, administrative procedures, regulations and policies of the National and Department organizations of the Marine Corps League. If there are any inconsistencies found within the Detachment 141 Bylaws and Administrative Procedures then the Department and National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures shall take precedence until corrections are made following the guidelines of Article X Amendments.

Section 3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Detachment shall be:

- A. To preserve the traditions and to promote the interests of United States Marine Corps.
- B. To band those who are serving in the United States Marine Corps and those who have been HONORABLY discharged from that service together in fellowship that they may effectively promote the ideals of American freedom and democracy.
- C. To fit its members for the duties of citizenship and to encourage them to serve as ably as citizens as they served the Nation under arms.
- D. To hold sacred the history and memory of the men and women who have given their lives to the Nation.
- E. To foster love for the principals which they have supported by blood and valor since the founding of the Republic.
- F. To maintain the true allegiance to American institutions.
- G. To create a bond of comradeship between those in the service and those who have returned to civilian life.
- H. To aid voluntarily and to render assistance to all Marines, former Marines, and FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplains as well as to their widows and orphans.
- I. To perpetrate the history of the United States Marine Corps and by fitting acts to observe the anniversaries of historical occasions of particular interest to Marines.

Section 4. NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

A. Westfield River Valley Detachment of the Marine Corps League Inc. is registered as a non-profit 501C-4 Corporation by the Commonwealth of

Massachusetts on June 14, 1983 and issued identification number (FEIN trust ID, etc.): 000108755.

B. No member shall derive any form of profit or benefit from assets or property of this non-profit detachment; except that a member may be hired to provide commercial services for which they may be paid. (See GDO 67)

Section 5. DISSOLUTION

- A. If the charter of Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 is suspended or revoked under Section 555 of the National Bylaws, then the Board of Trustees and all other members shall abide by such decisions of National and assist National and Department organizations with their lawful duties to the best of their abilities.
- B. All ceremonial rifles will be accounted for issuing regulations, (Title 10 US Code 2572) either physically or through police/fire reports.

BY LAWS ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization will not be denied on the basis of national origin, religion, creed, race or sex. Membership will be denied to any person who is found ineligible under Section 540 of the NBL.

- Section 2. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (U.S. Marines, FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplain only)
 - A. Any applicant for regular membership in Detachment 141 Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League must be eligible according to National Bylaws (Article 6, Section 600 (a), Article 5, Section 540(a)).
 - **B.** Said applicant shall present the following:
 - 1) The completed standard Marine Corps League application for membership, signed on front by applicant and sponsor along with initiation fee; cash or check.
 - 2) A completed copy of section A & B of Detachment 141 Personal History Form. (Enclosure 1)
 - 3) A copy of their applicable Separation Papers, Honorable Discharge Certificate, DD 214 and DD 215, if applicable.
 - 4) Active Duty ID cards must be witnessed by the three Enclosure 1 signatories.
 - C. An individual who is seeking membership within the Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League may sit in on one meeting only with a sponsoring member.

Section 3. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (All other veterans and civilians)

- A. Any applicant for Associate membership in Detachment 141 Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League must be eligible according to National Bylaws (Article 6, Section 600 (b) and Article 5, Section 540(a) of the NBL)
- B. Said applicant shall present the following:
 - 1) A completed standard MCL application for membership signed only on reverse by applicant and front by sponsor along with initiation fee; cash or check.
 - 2) A completed copy of Sections A&B of Detachment 141 Personal History Form.
 - 3) A copy of their applicable separation papers, Honorable Discharge Certificate, DD 214 and DD 215, if applicable, if a veteran of another Armed Forces.
 - 4) Active Duty ID cards must be witnessed by the three Enclosure 1 signatories.
- C. Associate membership shall not be greater than 25% of the Regular Membership.

Section 4. ALL OTHER MEMBERSHIPS

Detachment 141 shall use, as a guideline, Article Six of the National Bylaws on matters of all other memberships.

Section 5. DUES AND FEES

- A. Detachment 141 shall use the National Bylaws Article Six Section 610 and Administrative Procedures Section 615 as a guideline in the matters of dues and fees.
- B. Initiation Dues for the Detachment 141 as of Jan. 1, 2014 shall be \$40.00. (see Section 615) and shall be disbursed as follows:

National	\$25.00
Department	\$4.00
Detachment	\$11.00

C. Renewal Dues for Detachment 141 as of Jan. 1, 2014 Shall be \$35.00 (see Section 615) and shall be disbursed as follows:

National	\$20.00
Department	\$4.00
Detachment	\$6.00

Section 6. APPLICATION REVIEW

- A. Three regular Detachment Staff members (one of which will be the Judge Advocate) shall review and verify the authenticity of all documents presented by regular or associate prospective members according to Article II, Section 2, Section 3 or Section 4.
- B. Upon unanimous agreement of prospective member's eligibility, Enclosure 1 shall be completed and documents returned.

Section 7 PRESENTATION, VOTING, & SWEARING IN OF APPLICANT

- A. When possible, the applicant will be presented by the Sponsor.
- B. The Sergeant-at Arms will escort the applicant from the meeting and all the Regular Members will vote to accept or not accept the applicant as a Member of Detachment 141.
- C. If the Regular Members vote not to accept the applicant, the Sergeant-at-Arms will escort said applicant out of the meeting.
- D. If the Regular Members vote to accept the applicant, the applicant will be sworn in according to the Marine Corps League Ritual.
- E. After the completion of the swearing in ceremony the new member shall be awarded their Temporary Membership Card, appropriate lapel pin, membership ribbon and a copy of Detachment Bylaws.
- F. New member now qualifies for all rights and privileges in the Marine Corps League.
- G. Regular membership initiation shall be according to the Marine Corps League Ritual during a regular monthly meeting.

Section 8. GOOD STANDING

Members of Detachment 141 must remain in good standing with National, Department and Detachment as defined in National Bylaws Article Six Section 615 and AP Section 912.

Section 9. LISTINGS

A list of all members of Detachment 141 shall be kept current by the Adjutant and/or Paymaster kept proprietary as stated in Article Eight, Section 825 of National and Department Bylaws.

BYLAWS ARTICLE III OFFICERS

Section 1. This Detachment shall elect a Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, and Judge Advocate. These officers shall constitute the Detachment Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall appoint an Adjutant/Paymaster or a Adjutant and Paymaster according to necessity. The Board of Trustees shall also appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms, Chaplain, and such other Staff Officers as it deems necessary. Elected and appointed officers collectively

shall constitute the Detachment Staff. All officers serving in elected offices must be regular members of the Detachment which they are elected to serve. (See NBL 512)

Section 2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Officers will read and adhere to their duties and responsibilities in accordance with NBL Section 210 and DBL 205.
- B. The Marine Corps League Guidebook of Detachment Officers is not a manual of rules, but offers guidelines and extraction of ideas for your use.

BYLAWS ARTICLE IV ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. NOMINATIONS

The nomination of officers to the Board of Trustees shall be the last order of business at the September meeting each year. Each nominee shall be a regular member in good standing in this Marine Corps League Detachment at the time of the nomination. Each member shall rise, if not physically restricted, and state to the chair if elected, acceptance of the office and serve loyally, faithfully and to the best of their ability. (DBL Section 125)

Section 2. ELECTIONS

- A. Election of officers shall be the last order of business at the October regular business meeting each year and shall be a simple majority vote. The order of election shall be, Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, Junior Vice Commandant, Judge Advocate. (See NBL Section 125a)
- B. The monitor shall be a past elected officer who is not running for office.
- C. Before voting begins a final call for nomination shall be requested by the Sergeant-at-Arms. The names of any additional nominees shall be entered on a nominee board for all to see.
- D. The Commandant shall next call for "Election of Officers".
- E. If a simple majority vote is not obtained on first ballot reference shall be made to (NBL Article 1, Section 125d)

Section 3. LENGTH OF OFFICE

Detachment 141 Marine Corps League shall not establish term limits for elected offices and shall use the nomination and election system to be the sole determinant of term limits. (NBL Section 512b)

Section 4. INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

- A. Installation of officers shall be done no later than the last day of November each year.
- **B.** Report of officers and installation must be forwarded as listed in the NBL. (NBL Section 530)

BYLAWS ARTICLE V VACANCY OF OFFICES

- **Section 1.** The order of succession to the office of Commandant shall be (1) Senior Vice Commandant (2) Junior Vice Commandant (3) Judge Advocate.
- Section 2. Upon a Vacancy of Adjutant and/or Paymaster, the Commandant and Judge Advocate shall take possession of all books, records and properties of Detachment 141 held by the Adjutant and/or Paymaster. The Commandant shall assume the double duty position of Commandant/Acting Paymaster and the Judge Advocate shall assume the double duty position of Judge Advocate/Acting Adjutant.
- Section 3. A vacancy shall occur due to death, resignation, transfer, incapacitation or removal from office for cause. When an officer is not in attendance for two unexcused meetings during their term, it shall be cause for removal. The Board of Trustees shall meet and appoint a successor to fill the remaining unexpired term of office.
- Section 4. If a vacancy occurs within two months or less of Detachment elections the Acting Officer position shall stand; allowing the election process to remedy such vacancy.
- Section 5. If the vacancy occurs more than two months prior to Detachment elections all remaining elected officers (the Board of Trustees) shall meet in special session within seven days for the purpose of seeking a replacement for such vacancy. The board shall meet in a timely manner to seek a replacement.
- **Section 6.** Should a vacancy occur in an appointed office, a committee chairmanship or a committee member, the Detachment Commandant shall make an appointment, as soon as practicable, with the approval of the Detachment Board of Trustees to fill the unexpired term. (Article 3, Section 315, DBL)
- **Section 7.** When a member is found and willing to fill a vacancy the Board of Trustees will vote on said matter. Such vote shall be a majority vote. If a tie vote is taken the Sergeant-at-Arms will be polled for the deciding vote.
- **Section 8.** Upon completion of this process the acting officer's positions shall be relinquished and the Board of Trustees shall realign itself to normal operating procedures.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VI MEETINGS

- Section 1. Regular membership business meetings will be held on the second Monday of each month at 71 North Elm St., Westfield, Massachusetts. Commencement shall be at 1900 hours sharp with a quorum of not less than twelve members of Detachment 141 Marine Corps League present in good standing.
 - A. The Board of Trustees may alter a meeting date as it deems appropriate.
 - B. No alcohol beverages shall be consumed while detachment meeting is in session.
 - C. Conversations, use of cell phones, will not be tolerated while a Detachment meeting is in session.
- Section 2. The Board of Trustees shall meet once every quarter, January, April, July, and October on a day and time convenient to all. A quorum shall be (3) three. If required, a voice recognition phone call may be accepted to reach a quorum or to break a tie vote.
- Section 3. Staff meetings may be held at any time by any staff member and include committee members for the purpose of conducting business of a special nature. All staff members must be notified of such meetings when possible prior to such meeting. There shall be no quorum for such meetings.
- Section 4. Committee meetings may be called by a Committee Chairperson at their discretion for the purpose of achieving their projected goal.
- Section 5. All meetings regarding Detachment 141 held under Section 1, 2, 3, and 4 of this Article shall be reported at the next monthly meeting.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

- **Section 1.** The Board of Trustees may appoint committees for purposes deemed necessary and said committees shall serve at the pleasure of the Board and may be terminated by the Board.
- **Section 2.** Standing Committees shall be permanent until terminated under Section 1, of this Article and is intended to consider and act upon all matters pertaining to a designated subject.
- **Section 3.** Special Committees shall have the same responsibilities as a Standing Committee except that said Special Committee shall not continue beyond a (12) twelve month period from its date of inception or termination by the Board.

Section 4. A list of Standing and Special Committees shall be compiled by a Board Member with pertinent information and directions for future committee member's use. Said lists shall be kept in a Committee file at Detachment Headquarters.

Section 5. Real Estate Committee:

- A. Conveyances to and from Detachment 141. The Commandant, Paymaster and Judge Advocate of Detachment 141 respectively shall constitute the Real Estate Committee for Detachment 141. All conveyances of land by Detachment 141 shall be made by the Commandant, Paymaster and Judge Advocate as they constitute the Real Estate Committee of Detachment 141 and their deed with suitable certificate by the Paymaster shall be sufficient evidence when recorded in the Registry of Deeds to transfer title from Detachment 141 in fee simple to any guarantee or mortgagee. The conveyance when used herein shall be deemed to include sale, mortgage, lease or other transfers of any interest of any kind in land or real estate owned by Detachment 141.
- **B.** All transactions must be approved by a majority of Detachment 141 members.

BYLAWS ARTICLE VIII FISCAL AND FINANCIAL

Section 1. INCOME

- A. All income of Detachment 141 shall be derived from membership dues and such other sources as may be approved by the membership and/or the Board of Trustees.
- B. Income from membership dues and all fund raising activities shall be deposited into the appropriate account. All income deposited into any account under the name of Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League shall become the property of the membership in its entirety.
- C. Donations for a specific use shall be secured in the appropriate account until used for said specific purpose.
- D. Fund raising shall be in conformance with Chapter 10, Section 1000 of the National Administrative Procedures and Chapter 10, Section 1000, of the Department Administrative Procedures, and any local requirements

Section 2. EXPENDITURES

- A. Joint control of all monies deposited into any account under the name of Detachment 141, Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League shall be shared by the membership
- B. Two authorized signatures will be required on all checks. They shall be two of the following three: Commandant, Senior Vice Commandant, and Paymaster. Checks are not to be pre-signed.
- C. Any expenditure in excess of One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) must be approved by the membership. The Commandant may approve once up to

\$150.00 within a 30 day period for non-budgeted items. If additional expenditures are required they must be approved by the Board of Trustees. Or any expenditures in dispute, must be approved by a majority vote of the membership at a regular monthly meeting that qualifies with a quorum before said expenditure can be made.

Spend Limits Within 30 Days			
Commandant:	\$150.00		
Sr. Vice	\$150.00		
Jr. Vice	\$100.00		
J.A.	\$ 50.00		
Paymaster	\$ 35.00		

- D. Any Detachment 141 member may be reimbursed by the Paymaster for expenses incurred up to \$35.00 provided said expenses were pre-approved by the Paymaster and are accompanied by legitimate receipts.
- E. The Commandant may use any existing Detachment 141 credit/debit account to purchase necessary items for the Detachment when approved by any one member of the Board of Trustees and receipts must be relinquished to the paymaster. A \$35.00 limit shall be imposed.
- F. No member of Detachment 141 shall obligate Detachment 141 financially in any manner contrary to Article VIII, Section 2.
- G. Expenditures for the purpose of assistance to a Marine, FMF Corpsman or family member (see Detachment Article 1, Section 4B) shall be made following the criterion outlined in Article VIII, Section 2. However, emergency assistance may be issued by the full Board of Trustees in special session without consulting the general membership. Under no circumstances shall assistance be issued as a loan.

Section 3. ACCOUNTS

- A. All accounts of Detachment 141, Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League shall be deposited with an institution that is insured by the FDIC.
- B. All Certificates of Deposit in the name of the Westfield River Valley Marine Corps League shall have three signatories. Said three signatories shall be members of and assigned by the Board of Trustees.
- C. The fiscal year shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the following year.
- D. There shall be an audit of all Detachment 141 accounts and records once per year by the full Board of Trustees. Said audit must be completed thirty (30) days prior to Detachment elections and results presented to the Department of Massachusetts on the day of Detachment 141 Officers installation.
- E. A Quarterly review shall be done by a financial committee. The Board of Trustees shall appoint three members to this committee.

BYLAWS ARTICLE IX UNIFORMS

- Section 1. Uniform regulations of Detachment 141 shall be governed by and in compliance with the current Bylaws and Administrative Procedures of the National Marine Corps League
- **Section 2.** MCO P1020 .34 (web) Marine Corps Uniform Regulations Chapter 2 may be referred to for reference purpose.

BYLAWS ARTICLE X AMMENDMENTS

- **Section 1.** The Bylaws Administrative Procedures of Detachment 141 may be revised, amended or repealed by a majority vote at any regular monthly membership business meeting.
- **Section 2.** Proposed changes may be presented to the Judge Advocate by any member at any time. The Judge Advocate shall put forth such proposal, without prejudice, at the next regular meeting at which time the membership may accept, deny or table said proposed change until next meeting.
- **Section 3.** If said proposed changes are accepted by majority vote, such changes as written, shall be recorded by the Judge Advocate and forwarded to Department Judge Advocate for approval and recording.
- **Section 4.** Approved changes become effective immediately upon approval by the Department Judge Advocate.
- **Section 5.** If said proposed change is denied by the Department Judge Advocate it will be brought back before the next regular meeting for review and correction at which time a majority vote will cause a disposition on said proposed change.
- Section 6. Any issue not covered by Detachment 141 Bylaws and Administrative Procedures shall be referred to Department and National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.
- **Section 7.** There shall be a full review of Detachment 141 Bylaws and Administrative Procedures every five years by an appointed committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES and POLICIES

Section 1. POLICY

The policy of Detachment 141 shall be that of the Department and National Administrative Procedures.

Section 2. GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINE

Grievance and discipline of any member of Detachment 141 shall be conducted according to National AP Chapter Nine and Department AP Chapter Nine,

Section 3. ARMORY

All rifles, swords and other weapons issued to, or that which becomes the property of Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 shall be kept and securely locked in the Detachment armory locker.

Section 4. DUTIES OF THE ARMORER

The appointed Armorer shall have sole responsibility for all issues pertaining to the armory. The Armorer shall maintain and keep clean all rifles and other weapons, provide for their security, and accounting of those weapons. Keys to the weapons locker shall be issued to the, Commandant, Ceremonial Officer and to the Armorer. Security shall be strictly maintained. A key may be temporarily released to another staff officer. The Armorer will maintain a log book of weapons going in and out which will include:

Name:		Date:
Time Out:	_ Time In:	
Serial #:	_ FID/Permit/Lic #:	
Signature:		

The log will bound and pages numbered sequentially.

Section 5. MAIL

The Detachment Adjutant or his/her designee shall be responsible for all incoming mail to the detachment and shall be the holder of the mailbox key.

Section 6. KEYS

A Log will be kept for all keys issued showing Name, Date Issued and Date Returned. Upon completion of ones term of office, keys will be returned to the Commandant. Each appointed officer shall be issued keys pertinent to their positions which shall be determined by the Commandant. Each member in good standing may purchase a key to the front door upon approval of the Commandant. Each elected officer of Detachment 141 Auxiliary shall be issued keys pertinent to their positions upon request.

Section 7. ALCOHOL

There shall be no alcohol sold by Detachment 141

Section 8. SMOKING

There shall be no smoking within the Detachment

Section 9 MARINE OF THE YEAR

Detachment 141 Marine of the Year shall be selected by the past Marines of the Year and shall be awarded by the Commandant.

Detachment 141 Associate of the Year shall be selected by the Board of Trustees and awarded by the Commandant.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE



Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 71 North Elm Street Westfield, MA 01085-1619 Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850 Meetings 2nd Monday every month <u>www.mclwrv141.com</u> SEMPER FI

Enclosure 1

DETACHMENT 141 PERSONAL HISTORY

Section A: Application Information

Applicants Name: _____

 Payment Status:
 Paid-in-full
 Cash \$_____
 Check#_____\$____

1. Completed Standard MCL Application for Membership with Initiation Fee of \$40.00, cash or check. Marines, FMF Corpsmen and FMF Chaplain sign front and Oath on rear. Associate Members sign Oath on reverse side only. Sponsor signs twice on front; application and temporary card.

2. Submit copies of applicable separation papers, Discharge Certificate, DD214 and DD215, if applicable, indicating HONORABLE Discharge.

3. Active Duty ID cards must be witnessed by the three signatories.

4. The following Staff Members have reviewed the application and have found the applicant qualified for membership. Judge Advocate must be one of the signatories.

1.	Print	Signature	Date
2.	Print	Signature	Date
3.	Print	Signature	Date





Westfield River Valley Detachment 141 71 North Elm Street Westfield, MA 01085-1619 Phone & FAX 413- 562-4850 Meetings 2nd Monday every month www.mclwrv141.com SEMPER FI

DETACHMENT 141 PERSONAL HISTORY

Section B: Transmittal Information

1.	Name, as you want it to appear or	n transmittal	:		
2.	Address w/9-digit zip code:				
3.	Date of Birth:				
4.	Phones: Home	Cell	l	_ Work	
5.	E-mail address:				
	Name of Spouse:				
	Sponsor:				
	Transmittal #				
<u>Se</u>	Section C: Initiation Statistics				
1.	Date Member voted in:				
2.	Date Member sworn in & by:				
3.	Transferred in from:				
	Issued: Temp Card Lape				
5.	MCL Number	PLM # and	d Date		