



Marine Corps League
Department of North Carolina

Dennis Mathias
5323 Courtfield Drive
Indian Trail, NC 28079-5124
DCMathias@aol.com – 704-451-1397

13 March 2022

To: Department of North Carolina Bylaws Committee
From: Dennis Mathias, Department Southcentral DVC

Subj: Proposed Department Bylaws Amendment to Section 130

In accordance with the Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, Article Eight, Section 800, the following is submitted for consideration by the body assembled at the 2022 North Carolina Department Convention.

CURRENT Section 130:

All Department Officers are elected for the term of one (1) year and may succeed themselves if elected by the Delegates. Elected Officers shall be limited to a total of three (3) years in any elected office. All appointed Officers are appointed for a period of one (1) year and may succeed themselves at the pleasure of the Commandant Elect.

CHANGE RATIONALE:

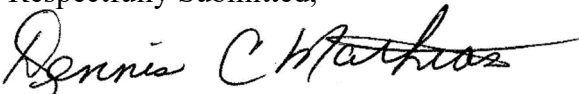
- A. It has been common practice to have elected officers elected to any other of the elected offices. However, the phrase, “. . . limited to a total of three (3) years in any elected office.” could be interpreted as holding, “three years in any of the elected offices.” A divisive, antagonistic, and wasteful argument could be made to restrict members from holding any other elected office, ever. The proposed text is not ambiguous and is simplified, modeled after the sample from *Robert's Rules of Order*, 47:4.
- B. The proposed added second and third sentences lifts term limits on the Judge Advocate's office. This position requires a complete understanding of the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, the Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, and a working knowledge of *Robert's Rules of Order*. It takes considerable time and experience to become proficient in all these documents and if the JA decides not to run or is termed out of office, the Department no longer benefits from that learned experience. No office is for life and every year the JA position is open to an election, which has its own corrective action.

PROPOSED VERBAIGE CHANGE: Bold text reflects the proposed change.

All Department Officers are elected for the term of one (1) year and may succeed themselves if elected by the Delegates. **The Commandant, Sr Vice Commandant, and Jr Vice Commandant shall be eligible to serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms in the same office. The Judge Advocate shall not have term limits.** All appointed Officers are appointed for a period of one (1) year and may succeed themselves at the pleasure of the Commandant Elect.

The approved amendment will have no bold text in the body of Section 130.

Respectfully Submitted,


Dennis Mathias