



Marine Corps League Department of North Carolina



William E. "Bill" Brown

Judge Advocate

6 March 2026

From: William E. Brown, MCL# 342077 / LIFE# 60939
To: Judge Advocate, Department of North Carolina
Bylaws Committee Chairperson, Department of North Carolina

Subj: Proposed Department of North Carolina Bylaw Change Art Five Section 570 Vacancy of Detachment Officers

In accordance with Article Eight, Section 800, of Department Bylaws (DBL) Amendments, I am submitting the following change for consideration at the 2026 Department of North Carolina Convention.

CURRENT: None

PROPOSED (Changes in RED):

Article Five section 570 VACANCY OF DETACHMENT OFFICERS The vacancy of an elected Detachment officer for cause is defined in the NBL Article IX, Section 925.a.(6). In any instance where an elected officer position occurs, it is imperative that the position be filled as soon as possible. The position, if not that of Commandant will be filled via natural succession, and if not acceptable to the officer in the lesser position, with the assistance of the remaining board of detachment members, an appointment will be made not later than the next scheduled meeting. If this cannot be accomplished, the Commandant (or senior officer if the commandant's position is vacant) will notify their respective District Vice Commandant and Department Commandant for assistance in determining a suitable replacement.

- a. An elected Detachment officer shall vacate himself by missing two consecutive, regularly scheduled meetings or Board of Trustees meetings, without probable cause and notification to the Commandant or Board of Trustees,
- b. Appointed Officers, serve at the pleasure of the Board of Trustees and can be replaced when deemed necessary.
- c. A vacancy in an appointed office, a committee chairman, or a committee member shall be filled as soon as practical by the detachment commandant. All such appointments shall be approved by the detachment board of trustees.
- d. An elected or appointed officer vacancy shall occur when the offending officer is no longer a member in good standing.

RATIONALE: Elected positions are critical to the successful operation of the Detachment. There should be no reason for positions to remain open when there are sufficient regular members attending detachment meetings. If you do not have enough regular members to meet quorum you are at risk of surrendering your charter. In either case, you must work with the DVC and Department Commandant if acceptable members are unable to assume the vacant officer position.

Respectfully Submitted,

William E. Brown

Past Commandant
Air, Land NC Detachment #1257
(703) 623-5803