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| **Office of the Department Commander** **Mark R. Day****104 Mullbury Place****Lynchburg, VA 24502****oscmbb64@msn.com** |

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**General Order #3**

**SERIES 2013-2014**

**October 28, 2013**

Brothers of the Department of the Chesapeake,

#####  (To be read in the Camps and retained in Camp files)

##### 1. In accordance with the National Commanders General Order #3, all Camps within the Department of the Chesapeake, SUVCW, have ceased to process any and all applications of any applicant under the age of eighteen.

##### 2. It is hereby further ordered that Camps comply with the following additional restrictions and regulations regarding current brothers, already accepted into membership, who are under the age of eighteen, and procedures which have been put in place to ensure both their safety and integrity of our organization.

##### A.) There can be no one-on-one contact, by a brother who is not related, with any current brother under the age of eighteen (18) years of age. In the a case where a brother under the age of 18 is attending an SUVCW event or program, that underage brother must be accompanied by a minimum of two (2) responsible adults, one of whom must be a parent of the underage brother. Camps have discretion for allowing non-member parents to attend meetings, events, and observe ritual, but disavowal of non member parents to attend meetings, events, etc. will mean those members under eighteen, who are unescorted by a parent, cannot attend that meeting or event.

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##### B.) Membership applications, directly submitted to a camp, for anyone under the age of eighteen must be forwarded to the Department Junior Vice Commander; who will then contact the parents of the applicant, within seven days, and inform them of the reasons for the applications delay in processing. Camp's are not seek out or recruit anyone under the age of eighteen until further notice is given allowing such recruitment.

C.) In the case that any Brother witness or have suspicion that physical, sexual, or mental abuse toward any brother under the age of eighteen, he will immediately report the abuse or suspicion of abuse to the local authorities and the Commander of the Department of the Chesapeake.

D.) Remember under the law it is the responsibility each brother to report suspected abuse and to learn about the signs of abuse. To protect the brothers of the Department of the Chesapeake and ensure that they are trained to identify and respond to situations where physical, sexual, and mental abuse is taking place; every brother over the age of eighteen, who may have contact with a brother under the age of eighteen, should endeavor to complete a training program related to protecting children from abuse of any type.

**Free training is available from the Boy Scouts at myscouting.org.** Create an account. Click on Training, e-training. Then choose the youth protection training. It takes about 30 minutes to complete. Upon completion, you will be able to print out a certificate along with wallet certification cards. **In Virginia you may try the following site provided by the Department of Social Services,** which includes a self paced training and printable certificate..

 **http://www.dss.virginia.gov/family/cps/mandated\_reporters/cws5691/requirements.html**

E.) Once a brother has completed a training course he is asked to forward a copy of his certificate or other proof of training to the Department Secretary, where it will be placed on file. Recertification is often necessary every two or three years and brothers are responsible to track their own qualifications

3. Camp Commanders, Please make every effort to enforce this order to protect our youth and adult Brothers as well as the integrity of our Order.

***.***Ordered this 28th Day of October, 2013.

Mark R. Day

Commander, Department of the Chesapeake
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:

Michael Paquette
Secretary, Department of the Chesapeake

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War