

TO BE READ IN CAMPS AND FILED



**Department of the Chesapeake**  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

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**March 25, 2020**

**Department Order No. 2**  
**Series of 2019-2020**

I very much hope that this communication finds all Brothers of the Department of the Chesapeake and their families in good health, especially considering the extraordinary circumstances that all of us are experiencing.

The health and well-being of Department Brothers and Sisters of the Auxiliary have been at the center of my considerations as we grow closer to the 2020 Department of the Chesapeake Encampment at the Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, Maryland. As a result of the ongoing global health crisis prompted by the Covid-19 virus, I have engaged with Department Officers and Councilors, as well as Camp Commanders across our Department, to determine an appropriate course of action concerning this year's Encampment. These discussions have followed guidance issued recently by SUVCW Commander-in-Chief Edward J. Norris in General Orders 15 and 17. We have also examined recent guidelines and recommendations issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control as well as an Executive Order issued on March 16, 2020, by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan.

**Based on these discussions and having received the approval of the SUVCW National Council of Administration, I hereby order that the 2020 Department of the Chesapeake Encampment be held on Saturday, May 9, 2020, by virtual means.**

The unprecedented virtual format for this year's Encampment will necessarily and at times regrettably mean adjustments to the Encampment agenda to ensure that the essential business of the Department is prioritized. I fully appreciate that for many of us a virtual format is less than ideal and/or a new experience that may present challenges. However, this is also an opportunity for many to participate who otherwise would not have travelled to Ellicott City. I ask for your support and cooperation as I work with the Department Officers and Councilors in the coming days and weeks to identify and address these and other challenges and communicate to you in the near future the solutions that we believe will best serve the needs and interests of the Brothers and Sisters of the Department of the Chesapeake.

I will also communicate in the coming days the deadlines for submission to the Department Secretary/Treasurer relevant Camp and Officer reports, as well as submission of recommendations for Department awards.

My gratitude goes to the many Brothers and Sisters who have provided wise counsel over these past days and weeks as I have considered the options for our 133<sup>rd</sup> Annual Department Encampment.

I am very much looking forward to your participation in what promises to be a memorable event.

The foregoing Department Order is proclaimed this Twenty-Fifth Day of March in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred Forty-Fourth.

By order of:  
TIMOTHY S. McCOY  
Department Commander

Attest:  
MICHAEL BEARD  
Department Secretary – Treasurer

