



# ***ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION***

## ***Colorado - New Mexico - Utah - Wyoming***

**From the Office of**

**Russell Miller**

---

**National Vice Commandant**

To: National Commandant Johnny Baker  
Copy: National Executive Director/COO Bob Borka

Subj: 2022 Mid-Winter Division Report

### **Department of Colorado (DOCO)**

DOCO currently has 12 Detachments following the recent revocation of the Charter for San Juan Mountains Det. 1104 due to non-filing of 990N, ROI, and Secretary of State filing. All other detachments are currently in good standing with IRS and CO SOS and as election of officers are completed will be completing and submitting their ROI's. The membership of Northern Colorado Det have recently elected to surrender their charter and transfer all of their members to the Loveland Marines Det which is approximately 30 minutes south of their current location. The Division's oldest Detachment (Frank J Carroll Det 28) is struggling to maintain necessary membership and are considering surrendering their charter. It is my hope that the current membership of FJC will consider moving the Det to one of the southern most suburbs of Denver metro area where there has been an influx of Veterans into the communities of Parker and Castlerock, CO. After a number of years without a MCL Detachment, some Marines in Alamosa CO have begun recruiting throughout the San Luis Valley and are making great strides toward re-starting a Detachment. They have already re-established Toys for Tots covering 5 counties and are having a positive impact in their community. The DOCO Annual Convention is scheduled to take place on 5-8 May 2022 in Greeley, CO.

### **Department of New Mexico (DONM)**

DONM has gone through some challenges to retain leadership at the Department level but I recently appointed Jr. Past Dept. Commandant, Joe Mendiola back to the helm as Department Commandant until they hold their Department Convention on 7-10 April 2022. PDC Charles Walters and DOCO PDC Garry Gibson (now Det 1328 Commandant in Silver City, NM) have also joined the DONM staff and are working to assist the other Detachments to correct some issues and regain forward momentum. A couple Detachments (Det. 1185 in Hobbs, NM and Det. 1287 in Roswell) are struggling greatly to continue to march forward and are in the process of surrendering their charters due to lack of members-in-good-standing and EIN's being revoked for non-filing of 990's Detachment 736 in Farmington NM had surrendered their charter, but with the help of PDC Ronald Barnard and some motivated Marines, Commandant Beau Harwood has regained momentum and brought the detachment back into good standing with the NM SOS and IRS. The Detachment has been renamed in honor of past detachment member and WWII Navajo Codetalker, Cpl. Wilfred E Billey. Det 736 will be holding their charter signing ceremony on 5 March 2022 and I will be glad to be going back to my home town for the event. We look forward to Commandant Baker and COO Borka attending our Division Conference at the DONM Convention on 8&9 April in Albuquerque, NM.

### **Department of Utah (DOUT)**

PDC Duane Smith has been forced to resign his post due to health issues and Marine Ben Setter has been appointed to fulfill the remainder of the term until their Department Convention in June. Commandant Setter

***"ONCE A MARINE, ALWAYS A MARINE"***

has hit the ground running and is traveling the state and meeting with all of the detachments to help them correct discrepancies and get back into good standing. He has his work cut out for him with only four out of the eight detachments in good standing. Det 1332 was also in danger of revocation until PDC Nicholes began working to revive the detachment and they are growing again and have changed the name to honor a past member of the Det., Sgt. Dannie O Phillips Detachment. Department staff and Detachment Commandants are in discussions regarding options for a Department Convention in June.

**Department of Wyoming (DOWY)**

DOWY is strong and continuing to roll right along with an outstanding Department staff. One detachment is having it's charter revoked because there are NO members left. Between COVID pandemic and the closing of coal mines and lack of jobs, the area around Rawlings, WY has been devastated. The remaining seven detachments continue to move along in true Marine Corps fashion. I have delivered two Detachment Starter kits and there is enthusiasm for a new Detachment to be started in the Jackson Hole/Yellowstone area. With the addition of a new National Veterans Cemetery in Cheyenne, WY, the Ed Herschler Detachment has stood up an honor guard and are beginning to render final honors for their fallen brothers and sisters in southern Wyoming. DOWY Annual Convention will be held 20 & 21 May 2022 in Cheyenne, WY.

Respectfully Submitted,

***Russ Miller,***

*National Vice Commandant*

*National Toys for Tots Liaison*

***Marine Corps League, Rocky Mountain Division***

*Commandant*

***Marine Corps League, Department of Colorado***