



Department of North Carolina

William E. Brown
3663 Genesis Lane
Wake Forest, NC 27587-6089
WBrown145@outlook.com – (703)-623-5803



30 March 2023

To: Marine Corps League National COO Bob Borka
From: William E. Brown, MCL Life Member #60939

Subj: **Proposed Amendment to National Bylaws / National Administrative Procedures (NBL/NAP):
Enclosure (3) UNIFORM CODE**

In accordance with the NBL Article XI, Sections 1100, and NAP Chapter Eleven Section 11020, the following is submitted for consideration by the body assembled at the 2023 National Convention.

CURRENT SECTION:

V. MARINE CORPS LEAGUE COVER

C. The Past National Commandants and Honorary Past National Commandants are authorized to wear a GOLD COVER with WHITE CROWN.

- The Past Chief Devil Dogs and Honorary Chief Devil Dogs are authorized to wear a GOLD COVER with a BLACK CROWN.

- Past National Vice Commandants of Divisions, Past Division Vice Chief Devil Dogs, Past National Directors, and Past National Directors of Young Marines are authorized to wear a GOLD COVER with a GOLD CROWN. (Rev 2022)

- Past Department Commandants and Past Pack Leaders are authorized to wear a RED COVER with a GOLD CROWN.

- Past Detachment Commandants and Past Pound Keepers are authorized to wear a RED COVER with a RED CROWN.

- All Past Officers listed above will identify their Past Office with a title strip or embroidery and will display the years that they held that office.

- With the exception of Past National Commandants, Honorary Past National Commandants, Past Chief Devil Dogs, and Honorary Chief Devil Dogs, they all will also display the organization where they held that office (i.e., Southeast Division, Department of Ohio, Chattanooga Detachment, etc.)

PROPOSED SECTION:

V. MARINE CORPS LEAGUE COVER

C.

...

- All Past Officers listed above **may** identify their Past Office with a title strip or embroidery and may display the years that they held that office.

- With the exception of Past National Commandants, Honorary Past National Commandants, Past Chief Devil Dogs, and Honorary Chief Devil Dogs, they all **may** also display the organization where they held that office (i.e., Southeast Division, Department of Ohio, Chattanooga Detachment, etc.)

CHANGE RATIONALE: The problem is that many “Past Commandants” at the Detachment Level (and possibly at some Departments) have served as Commandant of their Detachment on more than one occasion, and with recent rule changes for Dual Membership, this is further compounded. The current

language prescribes that all Past Officers listed above **will identify their Past Office** with the title strip or embroidery and **will display the years they held that office**. We have seen situations where members in small Detachments have served year after year, or have served a couple of years, served in another position or waited a year or more and were elected Commandant again. Now with the advent of being able to conceivably be a Commandant in more than one Detachment as a Dual Member, it is now exacerbated. My suggestion is that the word “will” be changed to “may” for both years served and in identifying their Past Office. It should be optional for a Past Commandant who has served in multiple years that the years served be omitted as it would be a nightmare to continuously re-center the title strip/embroidery or wind up with a collection of Detachment covers.

Additionally, as a Past Commandant from another Detachment, that earned title does not diminish the right to wear it if they are now a member of a new or additional Detachment. Lastly, Past Commandants have a rare privilege in being able to install elected and appointed officers, and the fact that they served as a Commandant in another Detachment doesn't prevent them from performing as Installing Officer to any Detachment in the League.

Respectfully Submitted,



William E. “Bill” Brown
Department of North Carolina Judge Advocate
Air, Land NC Detachment 1257 Past Commandant