



MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

Office of the National Judge Advocate

Bruce R. Rakfeldt

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From: Bruce R. Rakfeldt, National Judge Advocate, Marine Corps League, Inc.

To: National Commandant, TJ Morgan
All Members of the Marine Corps League

It is my privilege to submit this final report as your National Judge Advocate for the 2026 National Convention. Over the past year, my efforts have remained focused on ensuring compliance with the National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, supporting due process, and providing clear guidance to Departments and Detachments on matters of governance and discipline.

This term has involved the review of Chapter Nine's, interpretation of governing documents, and assistance in resolving disputes in a fair and consistent manner. Throughout, the goal has been to uphold the integrity of the Marine Corps League while promoting transparency, accountability, and uniform application of our rules.

The following report summarizes my actions since the Mid-Winter Conference.

Chapter Nine Issues

Since the 2026 National Mid-Winter Conference, I have received the following:

- One disciplinary charge packet, which was resolved without convening a Hearing Board.
- One appeal to the National Judge Advocate, which was formally reviewed and adjudicated.

During this reporting period:

- No grievances were received
- No appeals were submitted to the National Board of Trustees

No members have been suspended or expelled at the National level.

Overall, Chapter Nine activity since Mid-Winter has remained minimal, with matters resolved at the lowest appropriate level and without escalation to formal disciplinary proceedings.

Status of Department Bylaws

Since August 2024, we have seen significant and measurable progress in the status of Department Bylaws across the Marine Corps League.

	Year last Approved	# of Dept's	% of Dept's		# of Dept's	% of Dept's
		August 2024			June 2026	
Up to date	2024	17		2025	21	
	2023	10	57%	2024	8	
				2023	9	83%
Need to review/update	2022	5		2022	4	
	2021	2		2021	0	
	2020	5	26%	2020	4	17%
Not in good standing	2013	1		2013	0	
	2010	1		2010	0	
	1995	1		1995	0	
	Unknown	1	17%			0%
Total Departments		47			46	

As of June 2026, we have 46 Departments.

- 38 Departments—83%—are now fully up to date, with approvals in 2023, 2024, or 2025.
- This is a substantial increase from 57% in 2024, representing an 11-Department gain.

Equally important:

- The number of Departments needing review has dropped from 12 down to 8, now 17%.
- Four Departments last approved in 2020 and the other four last approved in 2022.

Most notably:

- We have gone from 4 Departments not in good standing—bylaws older than 2019—to zero.

Every Department now has current, accounted-for governing documents.

That is a major accomplishment and reflects the commitment of Departments, along with increased emphasis on compliance and oversight.

The focus going forward is simple:

- Close the remaining 17% gap (8 Departments)
- Reinforce a routine twice a year review cycle for all Departments
- Continue improving consistency, clarity, and alignment with National policy

We have moved from a position of inconsistency and gaps in oversight to one where the vast majority of Departments are current, compliant, and aligned.

The remaining work is limited, manageable, and achievable.

In closing, I extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the Marine Corps League for the trust and confidence placed in me to serve as your National Judge Advocate. It has been a privilege to carry out the responsibilities of this office in support of the League and its members.

This experience has provided valuable insight and opportunities for personal and professional growth as a League member. Through the challenges and responsibilities of this role, I have gained a deeper understanding of our bylaws, our processes, and, most importantly, the dedication of the members who strive to uphold the principles of our organization.

It has truly been an honor to serve in this capacity. I remain grateful for the opportunity and for the support extended throughout my term. Thank you for this great opportunity to serve **you**.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'BRUCE R. RAKFELDT', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Bruce R. Rakfeldt,
National Judge Advocate
Marine Corps League