

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS - DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
CONVENTION - PART I
SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015
CLOVIS VETERANS MEMORIAL DISTRICT
CLOVIS, CALIFORNIA

VOLUME I of II
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20		
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23		
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1 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS - DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
2 CONVENTION - PART I
3 SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015; 9:04 A.M.
4 CLOVIS VETERANS MEMORIAL DISTRICT
5 CLOVIS, CALIFORNIA

6
7 CALL TO ORDER

8
9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sergeant-at-Arms,
10 secure the door.

11 Please stand for the advancement of the colors.

12
13 ADVANCEMENT OF COLORS

14
15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Two.

16
17 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

18
19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please join me for
20 the Pledge of Allegiance. And uncover and remain
21 uncovered through the POW/MIA ceremony.

22 ALL PRESENT: I pledge allegiance to the flag
23 of the United States of America and to the republic for
24 which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible,
25 with liberty and justice for all.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Chaplain.

2

3 CHAPLAIN INVOCATION

4

5 ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: Let us pray.

6 O, Heavenly Father, we thank You for our
7 veterans, our servicemen and women, and for the
8 American Legion family. We ask Your blessings upon our
9 American Legion Department Commander Janet Wilson and
10 all of the department officers here today, our
11 ALR Department President James Adames, and our
12 department officers and all those present at this
13 convention.

14 We are gathered here together today to serve
15 You and to conduct the affairs of the American Legion
16 Riders Department of California. We ask that You give
17 us the knowledge and strength to do Your will with
18 a proper balance of eternal values and our present
19 needs. May we accept our responsibilities and act with
20 courage while considering the feelings of others. Grant
21 us a sense of justice and stewardship both now and
22 forever. Be with us and guide us as we make the many
23 important decisions that will affect all of the members
24 of our organization.

25 Lastly, O Lord, we ask for Your blessings upon

1 this convention. Guide us in all that we do, and let
2 all that we do praise Your name.

3 Amen.

4 ALL PRESENT: Amen.

5

6 POW/MIA MISSING RIDER CEREMONY

7

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Resolution 288,
9 adopted at the 67th national convention, calls for
10 a POW/MIA chair at all official meetings of the
11 American Legion as a physical symbol of the thousands of
12 American POW/MIAs still unaccounted for from all of the
13 wars and conflicts involving the United States of
14 America.

15 Accordingly, we pause to reflect at this time
16 on the American prisoners, a reminder for all of us to
17 spare no effort to secure the release of any American
18 prisoners from captivity, the repatriation of the
19 remains of those who died bravely in the defense of
20 liberty, and a full accounting of those missing. Let us
21 rededicate ourselves to this vital endeavor.

22 Sergeant-at-Arms.

23 Recover.

24

25 ///

1 RECITATION OF PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION

2

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And now we'll recite
4 the preamble. Everybody, you have got one. It is on
5 the back. It should be easy to read. It is quite large
6 print.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Here we go.

9 ALL PRESENT: For God and country, we associate
10 ourselves as members of the American Legion family,
11 constituting the American Legion Riders for the
12 following purposes:

13 To uphold and defend the Constitution of the
14 United States of America; to maintain law and order; to
15 foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;
16 to preserve the memories and incidents of our
17 associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of
18 individual obligation to the community, state, and
19 nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and
20 the masses; to make right the master of might; to
21 promote peace and goodwill on earth; to safeguard and
22 transmit to posterity the principles of justice,
23 freedom, and democracy; to participate in parades and
24 other ceremonies which are in keeping with the aims and
25 purposes of the American Legion; to promote motorcycle

1 safety education programs and to provide a social
2 atmosphere for American Legion family members with the
3 same motorcycle interests; to consecrate and sanctify
4 our association by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I now declare this
6 meeting of the American Legion Riders Department of
7 California convened.

8 You can sit.

9 Okay. We have our first fine of the day. He
10 went off twice, and I fined him twice, and he has handed
11 me a \$50 bill.

12 (Applause.)

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And at the
14 appropriate time I will be handing this to Janet, and we
15 will see what happens then; so if she -- so if she buys
16 free drinks, you know what is happening.

17 All right. Now, I'd like to introduce somebody
18 to you who is here with us that you don't normally see
19 that is not wearing a white hat. For this convention,
20 and possibly for future conventions, I have asked for
21 a stenographer to be here.

22 And this is Ms. Suzanne Hull.

23 (Applause.)

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: She is well known to
25 the Legion because she also works for our commander,

1 Janet Wilson.

2 Also, when you do get a chance to come up and
3 speak, please speak your name clearly, your chapter, and
4 then what you need to talk about so Suzanne has a proper
5 copy of it all. And so, obviously, she doesn't -- she
6 doesn't even know me; so -- and we only got introduced
7 this morning.

8

9 ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

10

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now we are going to
12 do a roll call of officers.

13 Steve, this is on you.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

15 Good morning.

16 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: President James
18 Adames.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Here.

20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Vice President
21 Chris Coleman.

22 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: Present.

23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Finance officer
24 Don Christolear.

25 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Present.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Secretary; that would
2 be me.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Are you here?

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: I be here.

5 Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Patricio.

6 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: Here.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chaplain Mary

8 Estrada.

9 ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: Present.

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Judge Advocate

11 Robert Stover.

12 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Here.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Quartermaster

14 Patrick Tafoya.

15 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Here.

16 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Junior Past

17 Poncho Villa.

18 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: Here.

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Historian

20 Jake Jacobsen.

21 ALR DOC HISTORIAN JACOBSEN: Here.

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 1 VP

23 Bob Perryman.

24 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: Here.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 2 VP Ignacio.

1 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ:

2 Present.

3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 3 VP

4 J.D. Bennett.

5 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Present

6 and accounted for, hoorah.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 5 VP

8 Mick Sobczak.

9 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Proudly
10 representing.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 6 VP Dan Dale.

12 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Here.

13 (Applause.)

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Webmaster and Past
15 President Doc Diaz.

16 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ:

17 Present.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: I thought I saw him.

19 Safety Officer Marc Mathes.

20 ALR DOC SAFETY OFFICER MATHES: Present.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Conventions and Rally
22 and Past President Terry Boughman.

23 ALR DOC CONVENTION CHAIRMAN BOUGHMAN: Present.

24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Past President and

25 ALR Commissioner Jim Banakus.

1 ALR DOC COMMISSIONER BANAKUS: Present.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Past Secretary
3 Anita Bart.

4 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: Present.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Past Secretary
6 Jeff Gallagher.

7

8

ROLL CALL OF CHAPTERS

9

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. Chapters.
11 Chapter 3.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 3 DELEGATE: Present.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 11.

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 11 DELEGATE: Here.

15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 20.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 20 DELEGATE: Present.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 22.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 22 DELEGATE: Present.

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 23.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 23 DELEGATE: Present.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 26.

22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 26 DELEGATE: Present.

23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 31.

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE: Here.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 48.

1 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE: Here.
2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 50.
3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 50 DELEGATE: Here.
4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 53.
5 ALR DOC CHAPTER 53 DELEGATE: Here. Present.
6 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 56.
7 Chapter 66.
8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 66 DELEGATE: Here.
9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 69.
10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE: Here.
11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 74.
12 (No response.)
13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 77.
14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 77 DELEGATE: Present.
15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 79.
16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 79 DELEGATE: Present.
17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 82.
18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 82 DELEGATE: Present. Here.
19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 83.
20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 83 DELEGATE: Present.
21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 84.
22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 84 DELEGATE: Present.
23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 88.
24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 88 DELEGATE: Present.
25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 100.

1 ALR DOC CHAPTER 100 DELEGATE: Present.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: How many of you are
3 here? You didn't check in on time?

4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 100 DELEGATE: Yeah. Chapter
5 100?

6 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Yeah.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 100 DELEGATE: Yeah.

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. Chapter 108.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 108 DELEGATE: Present.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 108 DELEGATE: Present.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 111.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 111 DELEGATE: Here.

13 ALR DOC CHAPTER 111 DELEGATE: Present.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 118.

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 118 DELEGATE: Present.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: 119.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 118? 118 here or
18 not?

19 (No response.)

20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 119.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE: Present.

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 130.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 130 DELEGATE: Here.

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 130 DELEGATE: Here.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 132.

1 (No response.)

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 136.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 136 DELEGATE: Here.

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 146.

5 ALR DOC CHAPTER 146 DELEGATE: Here.

6 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 149.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE: Here.

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE: Here.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 155.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 155 DELEGATE: Here.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 200.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 200 DELEGATE: Present.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 201.

14 (No response.)

15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 202.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 202 DELEGATE: Here.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 211.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 211 DELEGATE: Here.

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 241.

20 (No response.)

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 249.

22 (No response.)

23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 255.

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 255 DELEGATE: Here.

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 255 DELEGATE: Present.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 262.
2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE: Present.
3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 263.
4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 263 DELEGATE: Here.
5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 264.
6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 264 DELEGATE: Here.
7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 281.
8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 281 DELEGATE: Here.
9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 289.
10 (No response.)
11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 311.
12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 311 DELEGATE: Here.
13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 324.
14 (No response.)
15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 328.
16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: Present.
17 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: Here.
18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 348.
19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 348 DELEGATE: Present.
20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 355.
21 (No response.)
22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 365.
23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE: Present.
24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 371.
25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 371 DELEGATE: Present.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 383.
2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 383 DELEGATE: Present.
3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 416.
4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 416 DELEGATE: Present.
5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 432.
6 (No response.)
7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 434.
8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 434 DELEGATE: Here.
9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 456.
10 (No response.)
11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 460.
12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 460 DELEGATE: Here.
13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 497.
14 (No response.)
15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 507.
16 (No response.)
17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 509.
18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 509 DELEGATE: Present.
19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 509 DELEGATE: Present.
20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 519.
21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 519 DELEGATE: Here.
22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 521.
23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 521 DELEGATE: Present.
24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 534.
25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 534 DELEGATE: Present.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 555.
2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE: Present.
3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 574.
4 (No response.)
5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 595.
6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 595 DELEGATE: Present.
7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 682. 682?
8 (No response.)
9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 694.
10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 694 DELEGATE: Here.
11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 711.
12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 711 DELEGATE: Here, sir.
13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 716.
14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE: Here.
15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE: Here.
16 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 741.
17 (No response.)
18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 835.
19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 835 DELEGATE: Present.
20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 848.
21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 848 DELEGATE: Here.
22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 848 DELEGATE: Here.
23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 852.
24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE: Here.
25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 853.

1 (No response.)

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 872.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE: Present.

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 2.

5 (No response.)

6 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 5.

7 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Here.

8 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Here.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 9.

10 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE: Rolling 9 is
11 present.

12 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 10.

13 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE: Here.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 13.

15 ALR DOC DISTRICT 13 DELEGATE: Here.

16 ALR DOC DISTRICT 13 DELEGATE: Here.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 28.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 28 DELEGATE: Here.

19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 28 DELEGATE: Here.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 28 DELEGATE: Here.

21 (Applause.)

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you very much.

23 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO:

24 Mr. Secretary, 201 just showed up.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 201 is here.

1

QUORUM DECLARED

2

3

4

ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Mr. President,

5

I think you can conduct business. You have a quorum.

6

ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: Point

7

of order, Mr. President.

8

ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: You've got to turn

9

it on.

10

ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ:

11

Mr. President, Luis Diaz, District 10, duly elected

12

member to this convention.

13

I move or request a motion to have the

14

Sergeant-at-Arms waive the rule currently being enforced

15

at the door to allow the many veterans standing outside

16

merely due to their belief that it is certainly not

17

against the law to memorialize certain events on their

18

badge -- and it certainly wasn't last year. I think it

19

is a travesty of democracy and voting rights that duly

20

elected members to this convention who traveled a great

21

distance have been sequestered from this hall unjustly.

22

Thank you.

23

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Here, here, here.

24

(Applause.)

25

ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE HAEUSSLER:

1 Mr. President.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: If you would please
3 approach the microphone.

4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE HAEUSSLER:
5 Comrade President, I would like to second that motion.

6 My name is Art Haeussler, Chapter 365.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Did you get that?

8 THE REPORTER: Yes.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Mr. Judge Advocate,
10 we have a motion on the floor that has been seconded.
11 I would like to table that until after we have gone on
12 with our meeting.

13 And speaking of point of order --

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No. No. No. No.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Hang on. Hang on.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is
17 a nonagenda item. You didn't have to entertain the
18 point of order to --

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I'm sorry?

20 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is
21 a nonagenda item; so you did not have to entertain the
22 point of order anyway.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I'm sorry?

24 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: You can move on
25 to your agenda.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have elected --
2 I have -- excuse me. I have appointed a Parliamentarian
3 for this, and I will get his ruling on this. This would
4 be John Bart.

5 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Discussion?

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Any discussion on
7 this? On this --

8 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Do you have
9 a motion and a second?

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion and
11 a second on the floor.

12 Is there any discussion --

13 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: To suspend the
14 rules.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- to suspend the
16 rules?

17 ALR DOC POST 328 DELEGATE GUTHROW:

18 Don Guthrow, Post 328.

19 We should approve that to come in here for this
20 meeting. I remember when I come down here from Canada,
21 sixteen years old and joined the Marine Corps. Okay?

22 I'm the oldest of ten, five boys and five
23 girls. The girls are all in the Navy and the boys are
24 in the Marines. To discredit or have them stand out
25 there when they fought the war -- that is veterans,

1 Auxiliary, Sons of the Legion and, most importantly, ALR
2 also. It shouldn't be up for a discussion. We need to
3 let them in here because they spent the time and money
4 from far away to be in here. They are brothers and
5 sisters.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Is there any further
9 discussion?

10 (Applause.)

11

12 CONVENE CONVENTION

13

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The meeting will --
15 the meeting will come to order. I understand. Thank
16 you. We need to let everybody talk on this subject.

17 Ms. Bart.

18 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: My name is
19 Anita Bart. I am a duly elected delegate to this
20 convention and also a delegate in my own right,
21 Past Secretary.

22 I understand the problems with this and
23 I understand people's feelings, but these rules have
24 been sent out through your area VPs, and everybody was
25 supposed to have gotten these rules. And we are

1 expected to follow the rules of the convention. Every
2 time we allow somebody not to follow the rules we have
3 problems. That's why we have rules; so I think
4 everybody needs to learn to follow the rules of
5 convention. That is why they are there.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sir.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 20 DELEGATE BORGES:

8 Mr. President, I am the Vice President of Chapter 20.
9 My name is Carl Borges.

10 And I am totally against what she said mainly
11 because, as the previous speaker spoke of, these people
12 are veterans, a lot of them, and they have traveled
13 a long ways. And as far as some chapters -- or, as she
14 said, everybody received notice of this. We did not
15 receive notice ourselves until we came over here and
16 were handed the pamphlet as to what is going to be
17 allowed and what is not going to be allowed.

18 These people standing out here fought just like
19 I did. I'm a veteran, and I'm proud of it. And I know
20 they are too. I think by all means that they should be
21 allowed to come in here and see exactly what is going on
22 and happy they are veterans and Riders also.

23 Thank you, sir.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

25 ALR DOC POST 119 DELEGATE MUETZ:

1 Mr. President, Mike Muetz, delegate, duly elected,
2 Post 119.

3 The resolution is before the convention, but we
4 haven't voted on it as a convention to adopt it.
5 Whatever the outcome will be will be. But until that
6 time that it is adopted, I think that all of the members
7 of the ALR should be present to listen to the
8 discussion, to the reasons why, and what is going on.

9 Thank you.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Here, here.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Is there any further
14 discussion?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Call for the question.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The question -- last
17 one, and then we'll go for the vote.

18 ALR DOC POST 694 DELEGATE WAGNER: Good
19 morning.

20 My name is Tony Wagner. I'm a duly elected
21 delegate, Post 694.

22 And I'd like to let everybody here know that
23 I can see both sides of this argument. I know that
24 there are some people running around here with vests at
25 this time that were never legal since the original

1 convention. And I think people ought to respect that
2 and not say, hey, um, I can't -- why can't I come in if
3 it was never legal, and there is some of that. Now,
4 there is also -- I see some black tape running around.
5 Maybe these people could put some tape on their jackets
6 and --

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: No.

9 ALR DOC POST 694 DELEGATE WAGNER: Well, wait
10 a minute. Now, if it was never legal. I have some
11 things on the back here, and nobody stopped me on the
12 way in. It is not on the back. It is on the side.
13 That is what I was told was legal originally. And now
14 it seems that some people want to change it, but I don't
15 know how it is really going to be, and it really hasn't
16 been voted on. That was never changed. That is the
17 way -- the way these are right now is the way it
18 originally was. Now, it has always been that you can't
19 put something above or below, but the sides were okay.

20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: He is going past the
21 motion.

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. He is
23 going past the motion.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. Let's --
25 let's just talk to the motion as it stands.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Call for the vote.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All in favor of said
3 motion signify by saying aye.

4 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nay. Nay. Nay.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Just merely on the
8 sound the ayes have it.

9 (Applause.)

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now, while the
11 people are being led back in -- or led in, let's go on
12 with the welcoming.

13 First of all, how about a nice round of
14 applause for the people that put this convention on.
15 J.D. Bennett --

16 (Applause.)

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- Convention Chair.
18 Save your louder applause for later; so we'll see how it
19 turns out the rest of the time.

20 And I want to make a personal note to
21 Terry Boughman. He happens to be standing back there
22 right next to Doc Diaz. And I don't know if you would
23 allow me to even say this, but I'm going to do it anyway
24 as a point of privilege. Terry was in the hospital
25 yesterday morning and had been in the hospital for a few

1 days.

2 Right, Terry?

3 ALR DOC CONVENTION CHAIRMAN BOUGHMAN: Yes.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. Terry got out
5 of the hospital, and this is what -- exactly what he
6 told me. He got out of the hospital, grabbed his tank,
7 grabbed his bags, and came. And he showed up for our
8 DEC last night. He showed up for all of the meetings
9 yesterday, the commission.

10 Thank you very much, sir.

11 (Applause.)

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And Terry was also
13 one of the founding members of the Department of
14 California American Legion Riders.

15 All right. Well, by the way, welcome, and we
16 look to have a very lively convention. And there are
17 some things that we are going to be doing and there are
18 also some votes that we are going to be taking, and as
19 you well know and as I have pointed out to a lot of you,
20 this is probably one of the most important conventions
21 that we will have in our history, besides being all of
22 the other ones that we had before. But we have some
23 special things in front of us and some direction.

24 And with that in mind, Junior Past, please
25 introduce the special members of the audience.

1

2 WELCOME/INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND DIGNITARIES

3

4 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: Good
5 morning, everyone.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

7 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: I'm happy
8 to see all of my friends again. Being the Junior Past,
9 good to see everybody and chat with everybody; so
10 welcome. Glad everybody made it here safe.

11 Today we have some fellow folks that are
12 here to this convention. I'm going to make that
13 announcement.

14 We have Scott McKee, Department Service
15 Officer. Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA:
18 Sergeant-at-Arms Larry Leonardo.

19 (Applause.)

20 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA:
21 Department Judge Advocate and Acting Parliamentarian
22 John "Doc" Bart.

23 (Applause.)

24 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA:
25 14th District Commander Lewis Edwards.

1 (Applause.)

2 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: Area 3
3 Judge Advocate and also Chairman of the Fresno Veterans
4 Home Support Foundation Charlie Waters.

5 (Applause.)

6 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: And
7 candidate for Department Commander 2015 to '16,
8 Larry Van Kuran.

9 (Applause.)

10 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: I'd like
11 to extend an invitation to those that I announced that
12 if they would like to come up and say a few words, just
13 say so and I'll have my Sergeant-at-Arms come forward
14 and bring you back up here.

15 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: He is here in
16 a minute.

17 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: Not my
18 personal Sergeant-at-Arms. He is our Sergeant-at-Arms.

19 Thank you.

20 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: But he is still
21 up front.

22 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: And --
23 excuse me? That is what happens to Junior Past.

24 Department Commander Janet Wilson.

25 (Applause.)

1 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: Now
2 I will extend that invitation to anyone who would like
3 to come up and say a few words.

4 Sergeant-at-Arms.

5 (ProceSSIONAL.)

6

7 DISTRICT 14 COMMANDER WELCOME

8

9 DISTRICT 14 COMMANDER EDWARDS: Okay. As the
10 14th District Commander and -- in this area I want to
11 welcome each and every one of you to the Clovis/Fresno
12 area for your convention. And, like they said, I hope
13 you have a very successful convention, and please enjoy
14 the local area.

15 (Applause.)

16

17 DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER

18

19 DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER MCKEE: Good
20 morning, Legion Riders.

21 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.

22 DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER MCKEE: You were
23 louder earlier. C'mon. Look it, it is not 90 degrees
24 out.

25 Good morning, Legion Riders.

1 ALL PRESENT: Good morning.

2 DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER McKEE: There we go.
3 Now you sound like Navy people. I served three years
4 United States Navy, Navy Reserves; so that is my esprit
5 decor there.

6 I am Scott McKee, and I am your
7 Department Service Officer for the state of California.
8 I serve all of you. My staff serves all of you and your
9 dependents. 151 years ago last month a gentle man from
10 Illinois said to us, "We need to care for him who hath
11 borne the battle and for his widow and for his orphan."

12 That is what your veterans affairs
13 rehabilitation division does for the American Legion.
14 Since I came aboard almost six years ago, your
15 generosity and your support of the VA&R goes without
16 question. We estimate about \$50,000 you folks have
17 given to the VA&R division, and it is long overdue to
18 present you with an award. It is the least we can do.
19 It symbolizes what is on the back of your jackets. It
20 is the American eagle perched atop the American flag.
21 I don't think any other nation on earth has quite
22 a symbol as that majestic animal, and I don't think any
23 other nation will ever have it.

24 Because of your donations, this past week we
25 found out that a veteran had been finally service

1 connected after many years through the work of our staff
2 at the VA&R and received \$250,000 in retro pay.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER McKEE: The
5 unfortunate part is he will probably not live to enjoy
6 it, but his family will be taken care of, and he will
7 have peace of mind that that family is taken care of.

8 So Mr. President, will you please rise.

9 On behalf of the Veterans Affairs
10 Rehabilitation Division we would like to present you --
11 to the American Legion Riders -- this is all your
12 trophy -- in the last five years in appreciation of your
13 outstanding financial support of the VA&R division,
14 April 2015.

15 (Applause.)

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: For you.

17 DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER McKEE: Now, you
18 guys have an outstanding convention.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: For you.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

21 (Applause.)

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you, Scott.

23 DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER McKEE: You're
24 welcome.

25

1 CANDIDATE FOR 2015/2016 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

2

3 CANDIDATE FOR 2015/2016 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

4 VAN KURAN: Good morning again.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

6 CANDIDATE FOR 2015/2016 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

7 VAN KURAN: It is white outside. I left home at 3:00.

8 My name is Larry Van Kuran. I'm a candidate
9 for Department Commander this coming year. I'm from the
10 20th District, which is the San Fernando Valley,
11 Antelope Valley, Edwards Air Force Base area. I am the
12 Adjutant of my post and the Adjutant of my district.
13 Just like many of you, we all do things, and we don't
14 say no. We just keep doing more.

15 And I would like to be Department Commander,
16 and I'm asking for your vote.

17 Communication, we can always work on that.
18 I think part of that is evident here. We need to talk
19 better. We need to get things down, what is going on so
20 everybody understands, but that also applies to
21 membership. We have got to start doing membership in
22 the Legion a lot more -- with a lot more communication
23 than we have been. And if any of you heard me talk or
24 speak at the DECs or anything else, there is a lot of
25 things that the Legion, and possibly the Riders --

1 although I suspect you are probably ahead of us a little
2 bit -- about how do we reach out?

3 And when I say younger vets, I mean fifty and
4 under. I'm not fifty. What do they do? They live on
5 these. If you ever go onto the active duty bases -- if
6 you took this away from them, they would be out of
7 business.

8 We need to branch out, start recruiting a lot
9 better, a lot more aggressively. I can't -- you are
10 doing a pretty good job because you are growing pretty
11 well. We, as the Legion and the Legion family, need to
12 get a lot more aggressive. And on top of that, we could
13 use the cell phone all day or other forms of
14 communication. We have got to have a message why should
15 people come to us and join our families. The Legion
16 needs to work on that a lot.

17 A lot of the younger vets, fifty and younger,
18 a lot of the posts don't do what they want to do. We
19 all know the jokes about the bars. We all know that
20 kind of thing. But beyond that, bike rides, runs, and
21 other community related, family related issues. I think
22 San Diego area is picking up on that real well. I know
23 in the -- part of the 6th Area, the 16th District is
24 really picking up on it as well too; so I think we've
25 got a lot to learn there, and I am going to put my

1 emphasis on that for the coming year as my primary focus
2 should I be elected. And I am asking for your vote.

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: You ready for me?
6 Get the guns out of -- get the guys out of gun range out
7 there, Mr. President.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Commander Wilson.

9

10 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

11

12 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Good morning.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Good morning.

14 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: It is, indeed, an
15 honor to be before you once again, and I'm not asking
16 for your vote. I want to thank you for your vote and
17 for your confidence to do the job that I have been
18 tasked to do. And now it is not easy. It is never
19 going to be easy. There are always -- always two sides
20 to that story.

21 Just think of the ones in the headlines today
22 about vaccination versus not vaccination. Everybody has
23 got an opinion. But the one good thing that this has
24 done -- you are seven years old and you are having some
25 growing pains. You have had in your bylaws from 2007

1 the chapter on the uniform code. How many of you in the
2 room know what this is? If you ride a bike, you do. It
3 is the law. If you break the law, you get a ticket. If
4 you break the law as a program, we lose our nonprofit
5 status. We lose everything.

6 So it was tasked to me to bring -- I didn't
7 bring the resolution up. It came through the proper
8 channels all the way across. And it was brought up
9 because there are some police actions needed, but it was
10 more to make my District Commanders aware of what you
11 have in your bylaws. Some of them had never even opened
12 your bylaws. It had made everybody sit up and pay
13 attention to what is going on with our Riders because
14 you guys are -- and gals. I say guys as a term of
15 endearment. You guys and gals are our number one
16 growing pain because you are growing so fast. It is
17 good for us.

18 But we are a "learn by doing" organization. We
19 have changed over ninety-six years, and there will
20 continue to be changes. What we are talking about is in
21 our preamble. Part of it is to maintain law and order;
22 so when you wear patches and you knowingly wear patches
23 that are not legal, what are you doing? You are
24 breaking the law and you are putting your post in
25 jeopardy because the Post Commander has to come down on

1 you. Well, if the Post Commander is the President, is
2 he not going to come down on you?

3 So there are lots and lots of things going on
4 inside that resolution. The reason why it was brought
5 up the way it was brought up, if you think about it, it
6 goes to my DEC. And it was written by a Rider. We have
7 four Rider District Commanders and several officers that
8 are Riders. We had Mr. Adames, the President of the
9 Riders, in the room when this came up, and it was voted
10 on resoundingly thirty to nothing to pass that
11 resolution.

12 Now we come back to you, and you guys have
13 really got your working man's stuff together. And you
14 said, let's fix that resolution. It is not quite
15 perfect. You can't tweak it, but you can make the new
16 resolution that you can come back to our convention and
17 it is voted on and it is the best of both worlds. But
18 remember, the resolution, if we had come to you first --

19 And how many of you go to the department
20 convention as a delegate -- as a delegate with votes?

21 Okay. You come to our department convention
22 and you bring this resolution, and they say, wait
23 a minute? Where does this come from? This is the dog
24 wagging the tail? No. It is the tail wagging the dog,
25 the program. We don't like it. We shoot it down. And

1 then you guys have to wait a whole 'nother year to your
2 next convention to fix it. This way we go from Plan A
3 to B to C, and we have resolved it, and everybody except
4 those few who refuse to obey the rules are happy.

5 This is an education for us. This is an
6 education for you. We are a team, folks. We are
7 a team. And yes. Commander Wilson has got flat gear on
8 under her uniform today because I got some really nice
9 eye-opening e-mails.

10 And thank you each and every one of you. You
11 did a great job e-mailing and calling me on it. And
12 I spoke to every single one of you that called, and
13 I told you the truth. I told you the absolute truth.
14 We didn't do this underhanded and sneaky backdoor
15 tactics. It came through the proper channels.

16 Now you guys have picked up your bylaws and
17 read them. Now you are educated. Now you make your
18 resolution if you don't like the one that is currently
19 in stock, and it can be changed. It can't -- you can't
20 modify it, but you can supersede it. And you come out
21 of a consensus here. We take it on the floor, and then
22 we have done a good thing. And those people that still
23 are going to gripe and complain in the backroom are
24 going to do so.

25 This organization doesn't fit everybody,

1 unfortunately. We have people come in in the last year
2 and they say, gee, I didn't come into this post to paint
3 walls. I came in here to ride. Gee, I didn't come in
4 here to go visit people in the hospital. I came in here
5 to ride. Well, then, find a group that does ride.

6 I didn't come into this organization to
7 organize the rides. Gee, I want to be the happy guy
8 that gets on the back of the bike and rides. Well, we
9 all have worker bees, but if nobody does the work, then
10 nothing gets done. The Legion is not perfect, but we
11 sure look good at ninety-six, don't we?

12 And I am very, very proud to stand in front of
13 you today and say, thank you for your service. Thank
14 you for being members of this organization.

15 Please, my door is always open, not
16 figuratively. But my phone calls -- my -- but I will
17 talk to each and every one of you. And if you have
18 plans or ideas that you think really need to be out
19 there, come see me or come see my Parliamentarian. Come
20 see my JA. We are a team that can come work this
21 together for the good of the American Legion.

22 I want you all to have a great convention
23 because it is going to be fun. I can see that already.
24 But enjoy.

25 And remember: Ride safely. God bless you.

1 God bless the American Legion.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: I am very pleased
5 to announce that finally we have a department roster.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Telephone book.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yay.

8 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: And look. It has
9 large print. This is my gift to President James. They
10 are available. If you are not a post officer or
11 district officer, you can purchase them. Just contact
12 Bill Siler, and they will be at the convention for those
13 that are there. I wish I could have brought more with
14 me, but they just got off the presses just at our DEC.

15 And you'll notice all four logos are on the
16 back of the book because I believe in all four houses.

17 (Applause.)

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I guess we escort
19 you off now.

20 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Yeah. And there
21 is a step this year. I'm not falling.

22 (Processional.)

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sergeant-at-Arms,
24 would you please escort the Parliamentarian up.

25 (Processional.)

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now, let me tell you
2 what is going to happen here real quick before he
3 speaks. We -- well, you know what? I'll say it
4 afterwards.

5 John.

6

7

CONVENTION RULES

8

9 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: I'm not sure
10 I like that.

11 Okay. Peter, where are you -- where are you
12 sitting?

13 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:
14 Back here.

15 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Okay. This is
16 my Assistant Parliamentarian because as soon as I get
17 finished with this I am leaving to go make sure you have
18 lunch.

19 So a point of personal privilege, if I may?

20 How many of you plan to take advantage of the
21 great lunch that we are going to have?

22 (Applause.)

23 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Oh, come on.
24 Don't disappoint me. I have got enough food for 120
25 people.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What are we having?

2 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: We are having
3 really good chuck burgers with chili beans, potato
4 chips, and all of the trimmings. Six bucks, served
5 right next door here. You won't beat it in town. You
6 won't --

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I thought we were having
8 lobster.

9 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Oh, well,
10 I can't match that even -- I'll tell you what.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Say it, John. Say it.

12

13 OPERATING RULES

14

15 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: How many have
16 seen your operating rules? Oh, that scares me.

17 Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, Riders, each
18 convention has its operating rules. I'm not going to
19 read all twenty of them, but I want to highlight a few
20 of them for you.

21 Robert's Rules of Orders, newly revised, shall
22 govern all of the proceedings of this convention except
23 hereinafter as modified. Your operating rules:

24 Delegates must be seated on the floor. This is
25 a delegate area. The delegates seated on the floor must

1 wear their badges while they are seated on the floor.
2 No alternates may be seated with the delegates while
3 they are on the floor. You are the delegate.

4 All convention committees shall hold their
5 meetings at the places assigned. If you walk down the
6 hall, you will notice the rooms have the signs, bylaws
7 committee, so on and so forth. That is where the
8 committees will meet if they need to meet.

9 When a delegate desires to make a motion or
10 address the convention -- and Doc Diaz gave us a perfect
11 example of it -- he or she shall rise, go to the nearest
12 public address, this one or this one. The microphone --
13 wait until you are recognized by the chair. Please
14 don't interrupt one another because the stenographer
15 can't get two conversations at the same time. When you
16 print it out, it looks really funny.

17 When the chair has -- has recognized you, give
18 your name, your chapter or district number, and whether
19 or not you are a delegate or an alternate.

20 Only two delegates from one delegation shall be
21 permitted to speak on the floor on any one subject.
22 Permission to speak may be granted to others from the
23 same delegation by a two-thirds vote of this body.

24 No delegate, other than the maker of
25 a debatable motion, as indicated in Section 7, shall

1 speak in debate more than once on the same question or
2 the same day.

3 No longer than three minutes; so each person
4 has three minutes for debate; however, by two-thirds
5 vote of this commission you can give them an extra two
6 minutes and extend their time to five minutes. It will
7 take you five minutes to take the vote.

8 Debate on any one subject shall be limited to
9 one-half hour plus closing arguments by the maker of the
10 motion. The maker of the motion gets to make the motion
11 and give a three-minute closing on the motion. Time may
12 be extended by five minutes by a two-thirds vote of this
13 body.

14 The above notwithstanding, the chairperson of
15 the convention committee or the acting chairperson
16 thereof or the convention chair shall have the right to
17 open, participate, and close debate on any subject
18 within the jurisdiction of this convention.

19 The maker of a debatable motion shall have the
20 right to the floor twice, as it said in the earlier one,
21 once to open the debate and once to close the debate.

22 What we have recommended is that if there --
23 that no more than six persons be given three minutes pro
24 and con. That way you will be within your thirty
25 minutes; otherwise, you might be here for a week. I'm

1 sure the hoteliers would like it, but I'm sure you
2 wouldn't.

3 No person not duly accredited or an alternate
4 taking place -- may take the place of an absent or duly
5 accredited delegate. If your delegate and your
6 alternate for some reason have to leave or do something
7 else, go back to the secretary --

8 You can't hear me?

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Microphone.

10 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Come closer.

11 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: I already wear
12 the badge.

13 Okay. Have a good time, guys.

14 Peter, come on up.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Switch mikes.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Use that corpsman voice.

17 Let's go.

18 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Give me a hard
19 time about being a corpsman.

20 Okay. Okay. If you are not a delegate or an
21 alternate, you can't vote. It says it again. That is
22 all it is saying a second time. If your delegate or
23 alternate for some reason have to leave, then you have
24 to become an alternate, if you have been named as one.

25 No alternate shall cast a vote while the

1 delegate is present.

2 Now, this is an important part right here
3 because the hour is approaching. All resolutions,
4 including those originating in convention committees,
5 must be presented in writing in triplicate no later than
6 10:00 a.m.; so the hour is approaching.

7 Would the Resolutions Committee chairperson
8 please stand up so they can see who to give it to. The
9 redheaded lady, Resolutions.

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Do you know her?

11 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Yes.

12 No resolution to appropriate funds of the
13 department shall be considered on the floor prior to its
14 consideration by the Department Finance Committee.

15 Real quick so that you guys will understand.
16 The resolutions will be reviewed by a Resolutions
17 Committee. The committee will decide which other
18 committees they need to go to, whether it be bylaws --
19 Constitution and Bylaws, Finance, Uniform Committee, and
20 so on and so forth. Those committees will meet and
21 review those, and they will weigh in on them and return
22 them back to the Resolution Committee, who will then, at
23 the time, called for by the President, report out on the
24 resolution.

25 Proposed amendments to the department bylaws

1 shall be reported to the convention by the con- -- by
2 the bylaws and constitution committee.

3 That is the short version. These are posted.

4 Mr. Secretary?

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Uh-huh.

6 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes.

7 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: The operating
8 rules of the convention are posted. They should be
9 posted out front. If you have any questions, go grab
10 them and read them. Please don't take them because we
11 always lose them, and then somebody else is looking for
12 them.

13 If you have any questions, again, Peter is the
14 Assistant Parliamentarian, District 28. I'll be in
15 cooking. Grab either one of us. If you want to come in
16 and sneak a burger or a pack of chips, I will be in
17 there.

18 Have a great convention.

19 (Applause.)

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now to what I was
21 going to say. Before we go any further we are going to
22 have a discussion, and we are not talking about the
23 resolution. We have no say in it. That was directed to
24 us by the American Legion Department of California.

25 In that resolution we do have the power to

1 accept or reject changes to our bylaws. That is it.
2 The bylaws, if you missed them, they are out front --
3 big, huge, laminated changes in red. And that is what
4 we are going to -- because if you choose to accept them,
5 we go on. We have our convention. We have a good time.
6 We elect our officers. We get the changes. We get
7 resolutions. We do the normal business.

8 If you choose to reject them, the changes to
9 the bylaws, then I end the convention right here, right
10 now, and then we wait for Commander decision --
11 Commander Wilson's decision, along with her DEC, and
12 then we reconvene our convention at some other time if
13 that -- if we are still around. That is it, plain and
14 simple. We either give us a thumbs up or a thumbs down.
15 Plain and simple.

16

17 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

18

19 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
20 PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now, with that said, Resolutions
21 Committee -- or Constitution and Bylaws come on -- would
22 you please approach the podium.

23 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

24 JOHNSON: There is no mike.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I know. We'll have

1 to get -- we'll have to get this mike and put it over
2 here. Don't worry. Paul covers a lot of ground with
3 each step.

4 Please state your name.

5 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

6 JOHNSON: My name is Harry Johnson. I am from
7 ALR Chapter 152. I am also the Chairperson -- Chairman
8 of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee.

9 We held a meeting, and the Constitution and
10 Bylaws Committee, by unanimous consensus, recommends the
11 American Legion Department of California adopt the
12 posted provisions in the amendments to the bylaws as
13 presented.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

15 I'm willing to entertain a motion --

16 Don't go this way. Yeah. I have the voice.
17 I can stop him. Just place it on the table.

18 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Do you want me
19 to certify -- do you want me to certify that I reviewed
20 them?

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Yeah.

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: That's fine.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Smokey.

24 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Smokey Stover,
25 Judge Advocate. I can do it. Proud member of

1 Chapter 3, Hanford, California. I am your current
2 ALR Department of California Judge Advocate.

3 I have reviewed the changes in the bylaws.
4 I have reviewed Resolution 15-004 of the
5 American Legion. And I would certify that the changes
6 that were presented, as presented out on the board and
7 circulated to your Department Vice Presidents, are in
8 conformity with that regulation and would endorse and
9 ask you to accept them.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

11 I'm willing to entertain a motion to accept the
12 changes to the bylaws.

13 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: Comrade
14 President, my name is Brad Ring, President, Chapter 48,
15 duty elected member of this delegation and this
16 convention.

17 I make a motion that we accept the resolution
18 as written.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: You mean the changes
20 to the bylaws?

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: The changes
22 to the bylaws, yes, sir.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
24 the floor.

25 Is there a second?

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Shout it out.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Shout it out.

3 Hang on. Hang on. Come on over here, Jim.

4 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Because she has
5 to get it down.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Just pass in front
7 of Janet, really.

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL: I'm
9 Jim Sewell, a delegate to the convention, Chapter 555.
10 I would like to second the motion.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

12 I have a motion on the floor, and I have
13 a second. Now is the time for the discussion. As was
14 stated by the Parliamentarian, each speaker will get
15 three minutes. After the thirty minutes are done, we'll
16 take a short ten-minute recess, let you guys talk, and
17 then we will take a vote by chapter.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Unless there is no
19 need.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Unless there is no
21 need, as pointed out by my Secretary.

22 Sir.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE CAMARATO:
24 Mr. President, my name is Chuck Camarato.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Oh, excuse me,

1 Chuck.

2 My timekeeper is Vice President Coleman.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE CAMARATO: Ready?

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes, sir.

5 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE CAMARATO: My name
6 is Chuck Camarato. I am a member of Chapter 365, and
7 a delegate to this convention. And I am also a district
8 officer of the 22nd District in San Diego.

9 And I think that this body should be aware
10 before they vote on this bylaw change that the
11 22nd District has issued a formal letter of intent to
12 challenge --

13 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Point of order,
14 sir.

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE CAMARATO: -- the
16 resolution.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Point of order.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE CAMARATO: You
19 spoke of the resolution just now.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No, sir. I spoke
21 that we were not going to talk about the resolution.

22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE CAMARATO: We
23 don't have to accept these bylaws. We can pack up. I'm
24 not talking about the resolution. We don't have to
25 accept these bylaws.

1 There is a lot more involved here than people
2 realize and members realize. We have the right to
3 govern. The officers, whether you are in the Legion or
4 in the Riders, serve at the pleasure of the membership.
5 This isn't just about patches. It is about
6 Second Amendment rights. It's is about membership
7 rights.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Here, here.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE CAMARATO: And
10 I say that we vote these bylaws down and we grab our
11 bags and go home and wait until June in Ontario.

12 Thank you, Mr. President.

13 (Applause.)

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

15 Mr. Diaz.

16 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ:

17 Mr. President, this -- this organization has --

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Introduce yourself
19 again, please, sir.

20 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: Luis
21 Diaz, duly elected delegate to this convention,
22 representing District 10, San Leandro.

23 This is a very difficult subject to talk to,
24 and I find it somewhat ridiculous that there is
25 a subject taken off the table that is taboo. It is

1 like, you know, we can't talk about pedophilia or
2 something like that. I mean, we cannot talk about the
3 resolution. I would just like to go onto the record
4 that I find that to be ridiculous because for a lot of
5 people that is the main reason they came here today is
6 to try to resolve this.

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Point of order.
8 It is off the subject.

9 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ:
10 I believe the entire convention --

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is off the
12 subject.

13 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: It is
14 off the subject of what?

15 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: We are not here
16 to discuss the resolution. We're here to discuss the
17 bylaws.

18 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ:
19 Exactly. The bylaws; the laws that we, as a group, have
20 together over a long period of time put together with
21 the supervision of the parent body. My issue is that
22 next year if this parent organization is going to make
23 these sort of just perfunctory changes that they do it
24 a little bit earlier, and maybe we can just cancel the
25 convention and let them make whatever necessary changes

1 they think we need.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Before I even get into
5 it --

6 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Point of order.
7 You are out of uniform.

8 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Your bylaws state -- are
9 you fucking kidding me?

10 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Point of order.
11 He is out of uniform.

12 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Are you kidding me?
13 You have had a problem since I walked up.

14 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Your bylaws state what
15 the cover is. It doesn't state --

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Point of order.
17 Sergeant-at-Arms, President, I ask that he be removed
18 from the floor.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please remove him
20 from the floor.

21 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: What?

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please escort him
23 from the floor.

24 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Excuse me. Do you know
25 your bylaws, sir? It is a fair question, sir. Your

1 bylaws state --

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sir, you are not
3 allowed to speak on the floor at this time.

4 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: You know what? I'm done.

5 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: Okay.

6 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: You can't associate with
7 clubs, including active duty.

8 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: Have a nice
9 day.

10 DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE: Fuck you.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Members, thank
12 you for your patience.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We need to get the
14 microphone back.

15 How are we looking on time?

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE LOVE: Department
17 Commander.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Good morning.

19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE LOVE: Joe Love,
20 Chapter 69. I'm a duly elected delegate of this
21 convention.

22 I thought any bylaw -- any constitution changes
23 had to be read twice and voted on. Just like when we
24 did our constitution, we read it at two different
25 meetings and we voted on it. What has changed? Why are

1 why are we -- why are not -- why are those changes not
2 being read to the group out here so we know what they
3 are instead of saying whether they are on the board, out
4 of the room, and we are supposed to be at the last
5 minute trying to make these changes. They should be
6 read to us and tell us what the changes are. Am I not
7 right? That's -- that's in our bylaws.

8 Thank you.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 ALR DOC CHAPTER 136 DELEGATE WATHEN:

12 Mr. President, my name is Bob Wathen. I'm a member of
13 Chapter 136, duly elected -- or duly appointed delegate.

14 And as a secretary of a small, struggling
15 group, I want to not only echo what the last speaker
16 said, but I would also like to ask about the process of
17 the bylaws because I don't have the information. I have
18 not been given this information. I'm not sure if I'm
19 supposed to get it on my own. I don't know that there
20 is any formal manual of procedures that we have that
21 states how these things are to be done so that each
22 chapter -- chapter secretary would be able to go down
23 a checklist and find out what is happening.

24 I was completely unaware of his statement about
25 the fact that things are supposed to be read twice; so

1 all of these things I am hearing for the first time.
2 And I think that until we resolve those fundamental
3 process problems we shouldn't make any changes to our
4 rules.

5 Thank you.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

7 (Applause.)

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. We have
9 heard from three on the one side. I would like to hear
10 three from the other side in support of.

11 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE BRANSON: Comrade
12 President, Fred Branson, District 9.

13 Right now the opportunity to discuss things is
14 dependent on a vote to accept the resolution, and if we
15 want to move forward --

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Changes to the
17 bylaws.

18 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE BRANSON: I'm
19 sorry. Correct.

20 Changes to the bylaws. And to further cap our
21 discussion, our topic after that, our caucuses after
22 that, I would suggest that we strong -- I would strongly
23 suggest that we move forward and vote for it so we can
24 have the discussions to carry on so that we are prepared
25 for it. I'm just voting -- I'm proposing that we move

1 forward positively.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you. Thank
3 you. Thank you.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

7 Mr. President.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sir.

9 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

10 J.D. Bennett, Area 3 Vice President, member of 509 --
11 Chapter 509, a delegate to this convention.

12 We are a program of the American Legion.
13 American Legion Riders is a program of the
14 American Legion. We have been given a task, an order by
15 our parent organization. And, mind you, we would not
16 exist as the American Legion Riders if the
17 American Legion did not allow this program to exist.

18 We have no choice in this matter. We either
19 accept the changes to the bylaws through that
20 resolution, and we -- we continue -- the American Legion
21 Riders has been a program that has helped a lot of
22 veterans organizations. We have done a lot of community
23 service. We have a Department Commander who
24 wholeheartedly supports the American Legion Riders. We
25 actually have a Department Executive Committee that

1 supports the American Legion Riders, by and large.

2 For us to not accept this and go away, that
3 would be a travesty. We don't have a choice but to
4 accept this and move forward and make this program work
5 and exist and coexist with our parent organization and
6 be -- to be a productive program of the American Legion.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. The
10 microphone does work now.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It does work,
12 yes.

13 Mr. President, Robert Stover, member of
14 Chapter 3, Hanford, California. I am a duly appointed
15 delegate to this convention as the Department Judge
16 Advocate.

17 The discussion here is about something that
18 nobody likes to hear. Nobody likes to be told what to
19 do. The bylaw changes that are written, in reality,
20 just define issues that we have all known about for
21 a long time.

22 I don't believe a single man in this room
23 joined this organization just so he could wear a vest
24 and tell everybody he was a bad ass. I believe that
25 people joined this organization because, first of all,

1 someone went out there as a Legion member, as a veteran
2 member, sacrificed something that we live to acknowledge
3 as Sons, as Auxiliary members, as Legion members.

4 That is the parent organization that we serve.
5 The Riders -- and, again, everybody says -- and we use
6 this term program. Program means this is another
7 benefit of being a Legion member. Benefits are decided
8 in some ways in an executive manner because,
9 unfortunately, we all know if you ask three people
10 a question, you get three answers. If you ask three
11 hundred people a question, you get three hundred
12 answers. It is really hard sometimes to get a real
13 consensus. And at some point somebody has to be
14 realistic enough and honest enough to stand up and say,
15 we have got to start somewhere.

16 Here is the guideline. The American Legion has
17 given us that guideline as a program -- and I think we
18 all need to remember that we are Legionnaires first, and
19 Riders is an exercise of those membership rights.

20 Our President has already told us of the
21 American Legion that, you know, if there are issues with
22 this resolution itself, there is a channel to take that
23 through, just like when you were in the military.
24 A Navy guy doesn't say, I don't like what is going on
25 here. I'll just take this over to the Air Force base

1 and complain to the Air Force Colonel. He went up the
2 chain of command. I'm a Navy brat; so you went to your
3 shop foreman. He went to your lead in chief. He went
4 up to your master chief of your squadron. You went up
5 that chain of command. You didn't immediately go and
6 kick on the XO's door and say, man, I don't like what is
7 going on here.

8 There are procedures for changing some of the
9 things that we have been asked to do. Those procedures
10 are at the Legion level.

11 As to the Riders, look at the language that
12 they have asked us to adopt -- or, actually, I shouldn't
13 say asked us. They told us. They told us if you want
14 my support, if you want to wear the emblem that three
15 million American Legion members stand for, then you'll
16 follow the guidelines. They are not hard. A vest
17 doesn't make you a man. What you do does.

18 (Applause.)

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Mr. Stover, your
20 time is up.

21 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Thank you, sir.

22 (Applause.)

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 23 DELEGATE SWANSON: No. That
24 doesn't work.

25 Tom Swanson, and I'm with the Sanger,

1 Chapter 23.

2 Okay. Been around since we were over there in
3 Fresno. And our founding officers, Steve and Jim and
4 Jake and Terry, all these guys, it has been an issue
5 every frigging year about this crap. We should have
6 stopped it back at Turlock, San Leandro, whatever.

7 I think we ought to finally pass it because
8 that is what national, the department wants. Yes. It
9 is a program, but I fought the helmet law for forty
10 years, and I ain't going to start fighting this crap
11 again. It should have been done in Fresno, and take
12 care of it now.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Comrade
16 President, Don Christolear, Treasurer, American Legion
17 Riders, Department of California.

18 I wish I could remember who told me this
19 yesterday, but you guys on the patches, what I -- I'm
20 not a veteran, and I salute all of you that are
21 veterans. A grateful nation thanks you for your
22 service.

23 But when I look at the back of your vest and
24 I see veteran, to me that's the most important patch
25 that you can wear on your vest. You deserve that, and

1 that shows a lot. The rest of these are just
2 embroidered pieces of cloth. I know they have a special
3 meaning to a lot of you guys, and I can appreciate that.
4 But I think that the one on the back of your vest really
5 is the one that matters. Whether or not we take the
6 small patches on the front or not I think is pretty much
7 irrelevant.

8 But that's all I really have. I just think we
9 are making a lot to do about -- and I think, as Smokey
10 stated before -- I believe it was Smokey -- we just
11 don't like being told what to do. I think that is the
12 issue more than anything else. But I just -- I think we
13 ought to pass this and just get on with something more
14 important than just an embroidered piece of cloth.

15 Thank you.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE MUETZ:

19 Mr. President, I'm Judy Muetz from -- duly elected
20 delegate from Chapter 119.

21 My voice is the best I can do.

22 We can solve the reading of the bylaws changes
23 by having a short break and reconvening and having
24 another reading. As you all know, I have been trying to
25 reconcile some of this, and the best solution I have to

1 reconcile the issue is to have two readings.

2 Thank you.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: I'll be glad to
6 do both.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now, for the sake of
8 time and as was brought up, I'm going to have the JA
9 read the changes.

10 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: I'm just going
11 to read the changes, not the entire bylaws. Oh.

12 I'm going to make an assumption that everybody
13 doesn't want me to read every word, only the changed
14 words; correct?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. Just to
17 follow along -- and these will match, again, that poster
18 in front. I did it that large so that, if you are like
19 me, you wouldn't lose the piece of paper.

20 Okay. Article II, Section 5: The
21 American Legion Riders is a program of the
22 American Legion and is formed to promote the aims and
23 purposes of the American Legion by members of the
24 American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, and the
25 Sons of the American Legion.

1 Section 6: Members are the motorcycle
2 enthusiasts of the American Legion with the sole purpose
3 to support the American Legion and the longstanding and
4 respected position and ideals therein. Members ride
5 solely to promote the aims and the purposes of the
6 American Legion as a family oriented motorcycling
7 activity for members of the American Legion, the
8 American Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons of the
9 American Legion.

10 It is required that members dress and act at
11 all times in a manner that conforms with the bylaws,
12 constitution, and resolutions of the American Legion
13 Riders Department of California and the American Legion
14 Department of California and, further, promotes
15 a positive image beyond reproach for the American Legion
16 and its principles. Members are reminded that they are
17 a public face of this organization when operating in
18 group activities or interacting with the community and
19 shall act accordingly.

20 It takes me a minute to get the screen big
21 enough to read.

22 Article IV, Section 10: No department officer,
23 president, or elected officer of a chapter of the
24 American Legion Riders shall at the same time hold the
25 office of Post Commander of an American Legion post, and

1 that such a dual role creates a conflict of interest in
2 the due administration of the Rider program by the
3 parent organization of the American Legion.

4 Article XIII, Discipline, Section 6: No member
5 of the American Legion Riders shall wear an exposed
6 weapon, club, or fixed-blade knife while wearing the
7 American Legion Riders emblem or shall ride or act or
8 behave in a manner inconsistent with the goals and
9 purposes of the American Legion Department of
10 California.

11 Section 7: No chapter or member of the
12 American Legion Riders Department of California will
13 affiliate with or associate with outlaw motorcycle
14 gangs, parens, OMGs, close parenthesis, or their
15 affiliates as defined by the California Attorney
16 General's Office or any federal law enforcement agency
17 while wearing any American Legion Riders regalia.

18 Uniform, Section XIV [sic], Section 4: The
19 front of the vest or jacket shall have a fifty state
20 American flag patch high on the left-hand side. No
21 other patch or pin will be worn higher than this patch.
22 Such American flag shall not have any wording or other
23 embellishment on or touching the flag, except an
24 appropriate gold or black border on or touching the
25 flag, unless approached by the Department of California

1 American Legion Riders Executive Committee and Uniform
2 Committee.

3 Section 5: The vest or jacket of the
4 Department of California American Legion Riders will
5 bear only the American Legion Rider's emblem as
6 authorized by the Department of California on the back
7 of the vest or jacket, along with the chapter flair at
8 the top of the American Legion Rider's emblem and the
9 member's parent organization flair at the bottom of the
10 American Legion Rider's emblem.

11 The front of the vest or jacket shall only bear
12 patches of military branches of service, military unit,
13 in memoriam patches, American Legion Riders convention
14 or event patches, a name patch or a tag, the American
15 flag, a PGR patch, an elongated post patch if desired.
16 No military rank patches; city, state, or unauthorized
17 minute name patches; rockers or half rockers will be
18 worn on the vest or jacket. Flairs will be affixed to
19 the vest or jacket adjoining the patch in a style and
20 manner as provided by the ALR DOC Department
21 Quartermaster.

22 Section 7: The top flair will designate the
23 respective chapter number or chapter district that the
24 member belongs to.

25 Section 9: Members at the time of the first

1 annual convention in Fresno, March 31st through
2 April 1st, 2007, may continue to wear their existing
3 vests or jackets without change if they do not comply
4 with this article, except for Sections 3, 5, 48 -- or
5 38, and the addition is or 5.

6 Section 11: Member compliance with these
7 regulations will be at the sole discretion of the
8 Department of California's Executive Committee and
9 Department Executive Committee, the elected and
10 appointed members thereon, or such other persons as
11 expressly appointed thereby.

12 Article 17, Amendments, Section 2: All future
13 amendments to the Department of California
14 American Legion Riders bylaws will be reviewed by the
15 Department of California American Legion Riders
16 commission, commissioners, and the American Legion
17 Riders Department of California Judge Advocate for
18 approval.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. That's the
20 reading. And our time is almost up. Before we break
21 and go and take our short recess so you have a chance to
22 discuss this --

23 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: Point of
24 order.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes.

1 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: You said the
2 American Legion Riders, Judge Advocate, and it says
3 Department of California.

4 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Did
5 I mispronounce that? I apologize. Let me clarify.
6 What was the question?

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: It had to do with
8 clarifying the --

9 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Oh, is that the
10 last thing I read?

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes. It is this.
12 Department of California.

13 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: You said
14 Riders.

15 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. Just to
16 clarify, and I'll reread it, the question was asked as
17 to Article XVII, Section 2: All future amendments to
18 the Department of California American Legion Riders
19 bylaws will be reviewed by the Department of California
20 American Legion Riders commissioners and the
21 American Legion Department of California Judge Advocate
22 for approval.

23 Does that clarify it?

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Does that clarify?

25 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: Well,

1 it doesn't say it.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I'm calling the
3 Department Judge Advocate for comment.

4 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: It has
5 been added. It has been added.

6 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. It is
7 there.

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: It has been added.

9 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: So you have the
10 updated copy, Vice President?

11 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN:
12 Area 1.

13 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: Area 1.

14 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN:
15 I probably do. I was reading the wrong one. But I knew
16 it wasn't the Riders.

17 ALR DOC PARLIAMENTARIAN BART: I am taking my
18 vest off because I am speaking to you as the
19 Judge Advocate of the Department of California.

20 It has been pointed out that the
21 American Legion Riders is a program of the Department of
22 California. Those of you who were around remembered
23 that the first problem we had as a program was the patch
24 with a group in Adelanto. We had to solve that problem
25 right away or we wouldn't be a program. For the past

1 nine years internally you have attempted to solve this
2 problem.

3 The department is currently engaged in two
4 lawsuits and has had an education in vicarious
5 liability.

6 As a program, you answer to the Department of
7 California American Legion. The deep pocket is the
8 Department of California American Legion. If something
9 should happen, perhaps when something should happen, the
10 Department of California American Legion will be called
11 upon to demonstrate that it has exercised reasonable
12 oversight of its program. Your 50,000 or \$60,000 will
13 go away and so will ours as we defend this because
14 defending a lawsuit, answering the lawsuit -- not
15 winning it, answering the lawsuit is expensive, and you
16 will suffer from the negative impact of the publicity
17 you will get when that thing happens, if it happens.

18 But I am not Chicken Little; so I am not saying
19 the sky is falling. What I'm saying to you as the Judge
20 Advocate of the Department of California American Legion
21 is be aware of those and those agendas when people tell
22 you not to cooperate with the organization that charters
23 you.

24 This organization, the Department of
25 California, is not trying to tell the American Legion

1 Riders exactly what goes on the vest, and I think the
2 candidate for commander stated it very well. We clearly
3 have a communications problem. But we also have
4 a problem with those who would have anarchy and wear
5 whatever they please. As I watched you come into this
6 building, 90 percent of you were in compliance. You are
7 going to let 3 percent or 4 percent spin you around so
8 that you don't have the opportunity to work with your
9 parent organization to come to a compromise that will
10 make everyone happy? That seems pretty juvenile in my
11 perspective, and from a business standpoint not too
12 smart because we have to be concerned about a bigger
13 picture.

14 As you look at the resolution, you will see,
15 one, weapons. Nothing to do with the Second Amendment.
16 If you have a concealed carry permit, be my guest, join
17 me in carrying legally. If you are carrying a
18 sixteen-inch Bowie knife to look like a 3 percenter, you
19 are not what we want in the American Legion or the
20 American Legion Riders.

21 The proper way to amend the resolution has been
22 explained. I know from a couple of districts that they
23 were anticipating this and knew that we would revisit
24 a resolution presented by this body at the June
25 Department Executive Committee. But if you listen to

1 some people who are telling you rebel, rebel, that
2 opportunity won't be there. What will happen is there
3 will be thirty District Commanders faced with the
4 challenge of whether to let this program continue or
5 cuts its loss.

6 I want to you look around the room and see how
7 many of you there are. There are 82,000 members of the
8 Department of California American Legion that are
9 dues-paying members. They are not real crazy about the
10 idea of their dues being spent to defend a lawsuit
11 because the department hasn't exercised its oversight.

12 Understand when someone gets elected to
13 a position they want to be your friend. The rules have
14 been broken for years. We have a Department Commander,
15 because of the litigation we are in, who has recognized,
16 a Department Executive Committee who has woken up and
17 recognized we can't afford to not supervise our programs
18 and pay attention to what is going on.

19 The patch issues are not the main point of the
20 resolution. Those are open to suggestion, revision, and
21 compromise. The other things are not open to
22 compromise; so if you are going to throw the baby out
23 with the bath water, ladies and gentlemen, you are going
24 to put the Department of California in a very difficult
25 position. But I really -- right now, with the money we

1 have spent on litigation, I don't think that they are
2 going to step away from the task.

3 One of the comments that was made to me just
4 the other day is you know what this resolution has done
5 is just brought the cancer to the surface. If we are
6 going to work together as Americans, as Legionnaires
7 within the structure and framework that our organization
8 exists, this is the time and place to say we are ready
9 to step up to the plate and meet at the table and take
10 this organization to new levels of serving veterans.

11 Thank you for the point of personal privilege
12 and also as the Department of California.

13 (Applause.)

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. I heard that,
15 Commander Wilson. You stole things.

16 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: You have an
17 excellent Judge Advocate.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes. We do have an
19 excellent JA.

20 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: I'm eyeballing
21 him for next year.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Great.

23 All right. So there it is. We can't put it
24 any plainer. We can't explain it any more.

25 However, as a point of personal privilege and

1 due to some scheduling issues, J.D., if you would,
2 please, we had a -- we have a guest speaker that arrived
3 a bit late. There were some scheduling conflicts, but
4 if you would please rise. Please escort the sheriff.

5 (Processional.)

6

7 FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF - MARGARET MIMMS

8

9 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: It is
10 an honor and a privilege to introduce our guest speaker
11 for today, Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mimms. I have
12 worked with the sheriffs on a couple different veterans
13 issues. She is a great supporter of our veterans in the
14 valley. She is a great supporter of our Constitution,
15 the same Constitution that you took an oath to protect
16 and defend. She supports that wholeheartedly. She is
17 one of the few sheriffs who wrote a letter to our
18 Vice President Biden stating that she would not enforce
19 any laws infringing on our Second Amendment.

20 (Applause.)

21 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: I have
22 a great respect for Sheriff Margaret Mimms, and I ask
23 you to welcome her to the stage to welcome you to
24 Fresno County.

25 (Applause.)

1 FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF MIMMS: Thank you.

2 And as always, you veterans do a top-notch job.

3 I felt queenly being escorted up here to speak to you
4 today. And I have to tell you from the daughter of
5 a sailor who was aboard a destroyer in the Korean War
6 when I was born, from the stepdaughter of a Marine who
7 fought in Iwo Jima, I give you my utmost respect and
8 thanks for your service.

9 (Applause.)

10 FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF MIMMS: My job is to
11 welcome you to Fresno County, 6,000 square miles of
12 beautiful, beautiful land from the mountain tops, the
13 peaks of 14,000 feet, to the valley floor. Our county
14 stretches from the coastal range to the Sierra Nevada
15 and everywhere in between.

16 You know, I swore the same oath you did to
17 protect and defend the Constitution of the United States
18 and the constitution of the state of California. And as
19 J.D. mentioned, I take that to heart, and I take that
20 responsibility very, very seriously. And it is not
21 easy. Not -- there is many times when I feel like there
22 are a lot of people that don't want me to do that, but
23 my responsibility is something I rose my right hand and
24 swore to, and I will meet that responsibility. And
25 veterans understand that I think more than any group

1 that I speak to.

2 What impresses me most about veterans is that
3 you gave and you gave and you gave, either here at home
4 or on foreign soil. And what you do is continue to
5 give. I have seen the efforts that you do to give back
6 to our local communities, and I appreciate your group.
7 I appreciate J.D. because he -- he contacts me and lets
8 me know what is going on. You continue to give, even
9 when you are not serving the military any longer. And
10 that is so impressive.

11 And that is a lesson to our young people. So
12 many groups and service clubs are not having the young
13 people step up. You are serving as role models to our
14 young people to learn what service means and to take it
15 to heart and to continue to give back, and I appreciate
16 it so much.

17 There is conflict. In any group you are a part
18 of there is going to be conflict, and there are voices
19 of reason. We heard that today. I think that when it
20 comes to problem solving, it gets down to what did you
21 get into this to do in the first place. Get back to the
22 basics. Anytime you resolve conflict, that is where you
23 have to go; so after my thirty-five years of law
24 enforcement experience that is the only advice I have
25 for you here today.

1 But, again, if there is anything we can do for
2 you while you are here in Fresno County and you are
3 in -- the city of Clovis is second to none. I describe
4 it as a city that looks like they know what they are
5 doing. I hope you find that out as you stay here and
6 eat in our local restaurants and help support our
7 economy. I am very proud that Fresno County was able to
8 host you and be the place where you all come together.

9 So thank you so much. I appreciate you. And
10 thank you again for your service.

11 (Applause.)

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you for
13 everything. Sheriff, can you come back up here for
14 a moment? We are going to give her a ticket.

15 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: She
16 went over three minutes.

17 On behalf of the American Legion Riders
18 Department of California we would like to present you
19 with an official 2015 convention T shirt and pin.

20 FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF MIMMS: Wow. Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 FRESNO COUNTY SHERIFF MIMMS: Thank you.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please stay standing
24 while she leaves.

25 (Processional.)

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please take a seat.

2 All right. We have got a couple of things that
3 we have to do real quick. One of them is take a recess,
4 and then -- I want everybody to check their watch. It
5 is 10:44, 10:45. We need to be seated back at five
6 minutes to 11:00 because at 11:00 we are going to have
7 our Rider Everlasting; so we need to be back in by five
8 minutes to 11:00 so we can get our Riders Everlasting.

9 Is that enough time?

10 ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: Yes.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Is that enough time
12 for you to get ready for that?

13 ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: Yes.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Is that enough
15 time --

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. We stand in
17 recess for ten minutes.

18 (Short recess taken from
19 10:48 a.m. to 10:56 a.m.)

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sergeant-at-Arms,
21 secure the door.

22 We're back in session.

23 Okay. So I do realize we have a motion on the
24 floor and I do realize that Robert's Rules of Order
25 have -- we have to take a vote on it.

1

2

RIDERS EVERLASTING OBSERVANCE

3

4

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

5

PRESIDENT ADAMES: But with all withstanding, I'd like

6

to do the Rider Everlasting because it is traditionally

7

done at 11:00 o'clock, usually on Sundays for the Legion

8

but for us it is done on Saturdays; so if you will allow

9

me that.

10

Chaplain.

11

ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: We're going to hold

12

our service here, and then at the end we will have --

13

ask everyone to rise for "Taps."

14

Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge the

15

wife of one of our memorialized members. Her name is

16

Rosa Garcia. I know that she is present here today, and

17

I would like to acknowledge her and extend her our

18

greatest sympathies.

19

(Applause.)

20

ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: Would all the men in

21

the audience please uncover for prayer.

22

As we set aside this special time to honor and

23

pay our respects for our comrades who have departed this

24

life, having been called for our midst and having taken

25

their final ride, it is fitting that we remember with

1 gratitude and respect all that they stood for in their
2 life. Because of them our lives are free. Because of
3 them our nation lives. Because of them the world is
4 blessed. Let us pray.

5 O God of all our yesterdays, our todays, and
6 our tomorrows, we pause here together in the quietness
7 of remembrance to linger for a moment in thought over
8 those of our comrades of yesterday whose numbers will
9 ring out in our hearing as those who have transferred
10 from our ranks to Riders Everlasting.

11 Almighty God, we will add this ribbon with the
12 names of our departed comrades to our flag that though
13 they have departed from us that their spirit will remain
14 with us always. O Lord God, grant us the grace to
15 remember with love and reverence our departed comrades
16 whose name we call out with respect.

17 Leonard Ervin Powell, Jr., Chapter 26.

18 Jennifer Volk1, Chapter 31.

19 Gary Garcia, Chapter 716.

20 Richard Gene Thompson, Chapter 741.

21 Bud Rowland, Chapter 853.

22 We recall with gratitude and respect all that
23 they stood for in their lives. Grant peace and eternal
24 rest to them and to those of our ranks who have gone
25 before them. We ask for consolation on their family and

1 friends. We ask that You bestow upon them Your comfort
2 and everlasting blessings. May we be kind to their
3 friends and family they loved, devoted to the community
4 in which they live, embroil to the causes they served.

5 Receive, O Father, the soul of our comrades
6 departed and grant them entrance into Your heavenly
7 kingdom where they may know the joy of everlasting life,
8 thus in our life may they still live on to our great
9 comfort, to the betterment of Your creation, and to the
10 furthering of Your holy will.

11 In Your name we pray, amen.

12 ALL PRESENT: Amen.

13 (Playing of "Taps.")

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

15 And thank you for allowing me to do that, kind
16 of going out of order there.

17 All right. So we have all had a chance -- or
18 you have had a chance to discuss this resolution.

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Bylaw. Yeah. Bylaw
21 change. Here I go. All right. Bylaw change.

22 So will the maker of the motion please approach
23 one of the podiums.

24 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Do you want me
25 to go forward with the second reading?

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sir, I know you were
2 the maker of the motion, which has been duly seconded;
3 however, I am going to suspend that for right now.

4 I have just been told that I can do that because there
5 is a superseding question that needs to be addressed.

6 And that superseding question is?

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: The superseding question,
8 Mr. President, is to ask the delegates present to allow
9 for a -- to allow for a change in agenda to allow for
10 another issue to be brought to the floor.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: What?

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So I need to --

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Mr. President, let me put
14 a comma there. And the issue is so that we follow -- so
15 that the order that we are doing follows Robert's Rules,
16 which allows us to have a vote; so it assumes we have to
17 vote, which is strictly for procedural purposes only.
18 Then it allows us to move on with the rest of the move.

19 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Correct.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes, ma'am.

21 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: My name is
22 Anita Bart.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes, ma'am.

24 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: My name is
25 Anita Bart. I am from Chapter 23, and I am also

1 a delegate in my own right as Past Secretary.

2 I move that we make a change to the agenda so
3 that we can have this election now -- or this vote on
4 this --

5 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Question.

6 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: -- question
7 now --

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now.

9 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: -- instead of
10 where the changes to the bylaws says later in the
11 convention.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
13 the floor.

14 Is there a second?

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY:

16 Stephanie Early, Chapter 872, duly elected delegate to
17 this convention.

18 I second the motion.

19 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Discussion?

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Is there any
21 discussion?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: What is the motion?

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: What is the motion?

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I didn't understand. I'm
25 sorry.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No. That's fine.

2 The motion is --

3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Amend the agenda,
4 basically.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- basically to
6 amend the agenda.

7 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: The motion is to
8 amend the agenda so that we can vote on this particular
9 subject at this time. If you notice on your agenda, it
10 says that any bylaw changes come later in the agenda; so
11 it is an amendment to the agenda so this particular vote
12 can happen now.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay. Thank you.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Correct.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Being no discussion,
16 all in favor of said motion signify by saying aye.

17 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

19 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The ayes have it.
21 Motion carries.

22 Okay. So now we'll proceed on to --

23 Mr. Ring, please approach.

24 Okay. So what we are going to do is have
25 a reading again of the changes to the bylaws, at which

1 time at the end of that reading I will allow you three
2 minutes to make any additional comments that you want to
3 make before we take the vote.

4 Okay?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: All right.

8 Article II, Nature, Section 5 -- I will read just the
9 changes pursuant to the prior agreement.

10 Section 5: The American Legion Riders is
11 a program of the American Legion and is formed to
12 promote the aims and purposes of the American Legion by
13 the members of the American Legion, the American Legion
14 Auxiliary, and the Sons of the American Legion.

15 Section 6: Members are the motorcycle
16 enthusiasts of the American Legion with the sole purpose
17 to support the American Legion and the longstanding and
18 respected position and ideals therein. Members ride
19 solely to promote the aims and purposes of the
20 American Legion as a family oriented motorcycling
21 activity for members of the American Legion, the
22 American Legion Auxiliary, and the Sons of the
23 American Legion.

24 It is required that members dress and act at
25 all times in a manner that conforms with the bylaws,

1 constitution, and resolutions of the American Legion
2 Riders Department of California and the American Legion
3 Department of California and further promotes a positive
4 image beyond reproach for the American Legion and its
5 principles. Members are reminded that they are a public
6 face of this organization when operating in group
7 activities and interacting with the community and shall
8 act accordingly.

9 Article IV, Section 10: No department officer,
10 president, or elected officer of a chapter of the
11 American Legion Riders shall at the same time hold the
12 office of Post Commander of an American Legion post and
13 that such a dual role creates a conflict of interest in
14 the due administration of the Riders program by the
15 parent organization of the American Legion.

16 Section XIII [sic], Discipline, Section 6: No
17 member of the American Legion Riders shall wear an
18 exposed weapon, club, or fixed-blade knife while wearing
19 the American Legion Riders emblem or shall ride or act
20 or behave in a manner inconsistent with the goals and
21 purposes of the American Legion Department of
22 California.

23 Section 7: No chapter or member of the
24 American Legion Riders Department of California will
25 affiliate with or associate with outlaw motorcycle gangs

1 or their affiliates, as defined by the California
2 Attorney General's Office or any federal law enforcement
3 agency while wearing any American Legion regalia.

4 Uniform, Section 4: The front of the vest or
5 jacket shall have a fifty state American flag patch high
6 on the left-hand side. No other pin or patch will be
7 worn higher than this patch. Such American flag shall
8 not have any wording or other embellishment on or
9 touching the flag except an appropriate gold or black
10 border on or touching the flag, unless expressly
11 approved of by the American Legion Riders Department of
12 California Executive Committee and Uniform Committee.

13 Section 5: The vest or jacket of the
14 Department of California American Legion Riders will
15 bear only the American Legion Rider's emblem as
16 authorized by the Department of California on the back
17 of the vest or jacket, along with the chapter flair at
18 the top of the Legion Rider's emblem and the member's
19 parent organization flair at the bottom of the Legion
20 Rider's emblem.

21 The front of the vest or jacket shall only bear
22 patches of military branches of service, military units,
23 in memoriam patches, American Legion Riders convention
24 or event patches, a name patch or tag, the American
25 flag, a PGR patch, and an elongated post patch if

1 desired. No military rank patches; city, state, or
2 unauthorized unit name patches; rockers or half rockers
3 will be worn on the vest or jacket. Flairs shall be
4 affixed to the vest or jacket adjoining the patch in
5 a style and manner as provided by the ALR DOC Department
6 Quartermaster.

7 Section 7: The top flair will designate the
8 respective chapter number or district number that the
9 member belongs to.

10 Section 11: Members compliance with these
11 regulations will be at the sole discretion of the
12 Department of California Executive Committee and the
13 executive and the department -- I'm sorry. Let me go
14 back up.

15 Members compliance with these regulations will
16 be at the sole discretion of the Department of
17 California Executive Committee and the Department
18 Executive Committee and its duly elected and appointed
19 members thereon or such other persons who are expressly
20 appointed thereby.

21 Amendments, Section 2: All future amendments
22 to the Department of California American Legion Riders
23 bylaws will be reviewed by the Department of California
24 American Legion Riders commissioners and the
25 American Legion Department of California Judge Advocate

1 for approval.

2 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
3 PRESIDENT ADAMES: So again, that was the second
4 reading. Now when we take the vote. We are going to do
5 it by roll call; so the Secretary will call your
6 chapter; so when we do this, we do it like we have done
7 in the past. Line up numerically starting with --
8 I think Chapter 3 is the first one, and then districts
9 come at the end.

10 So please, at this time, align as you were.

11 Mr. Ring.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: You are sure
13 now?

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes. I am sure now.
15 As the maker of the -- of the --

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: Motion.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- motion -- thank
18 you. You should see how many e-mails I got about this.
19 All right. E-mails, phone calls, although apparently
20 not as many as Janet -- Commander Wilson.

21 You have three minutes for any final comments
22 before we go on with the vote.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: I reiterate,
24 I wish to continue to move this on and that we should
25 vote on these bylaws that have been presented through

1 this delegation.

2 Thank you.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

4 So at this time I will ask that you line up on
5 either side. Make sure -- or correction. Let's vote
6 from this one. Let's --

7 That's where I was going to go.

8 One representative from your delegation, when
9 you come up, you state who you are, what chapter you
10 represent, and your vote. Please do so at this time,
11 Chapter 3 being first. We're voting from my right. And
12 if you can't see this man, you are -- you need to go get
13 your eyes checked.

14 All right. Let's keep the noise down while
15 they are lining up and keep the voices down while they
16 are doing their vote, please. Let's give it a second,
17 sir.

18

19 VOTE ON BYLAWS

20

21 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
22 PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. Let's come to order and
23 let the vote begin. Quiet, please.

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 3 DELEGATE DRIVER:

25 Steve Driver, Chapter 3.

1 We cast four votes in favor.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 11 DELEGATE CHACON: Ed Chacon,
3 Chapter 11.

4 We cast two votes in favor.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 20.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 20 DELEGATE BORGES: Yes.
7 Carl Borges, Vice President.

8 We have three votes in favor.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 22.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 22 DELEGATE BROWN: Ron Brown,
11 Chapter 22.

12 Three votes in favor.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 23.

14 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: Anita Bart,
15 Chapter 23.

16 Two votes in favor of our delegates and my
17 one vote -- my personal vote in favor as the
18 Past Secretary.

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 26.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 26 DELEGATE EDMONDSON:
21 Mitchell Edmondson, Chapter 26.

22 We have three votes in favor.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: Hy Libby,
24 delegate, Chapter 31.

25 We have three delegate votes, two in favor, one

1 abstention.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE WOMBLE:

3 Ronnie Womble, Chapter 48.

4 Four votes acceptance.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 50.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 50 DELEGATE: Delegate from
7 Chapter 50.

8 Three votes nay.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 53.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 53 DELEGATE IRELAND:

11 Terry Ireland, delegate, Chapter 53.

12 Four votes yes.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter 66.

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 66 DELEGATE MARRIOTT:

15 Don Marriott, Chapter 66.

16 Four yays.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Excuse me. You have
18 three votes -- oh, three. Then we have three.

19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 66 DELEGATE MARRIOTT:

20 Actually, we have four.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. Three -- three
22 plus one.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 66 DELEGATE MARRIOTT: All
24 right.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: There is one in his

1 own right. That is where we are going with that.

2 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE DELUNA:

4 Robert Deluna, Chapter 69.

5 Three in favor.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 77 DELEGATE PHELPS:

7 Kevin Phelps, Chapter 77.

8 Three in favor.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 79.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 79 DELEGATE SCHULTZ:

11 Shawn Schultz, Chapter 79.

12 Two in favor.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

14 82.

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 82 DELEGATE SMITH:

16 George Smith, Chapter 82.

17 Two in favor.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

19 83.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 83 DELEGATE CAMP: Neal Camp,

21 Chapter 83.

22 Four in favor.

23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

24 84.

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 84 DELEGATE GEORGE:

1 David George, Chapter 84.
2 Three in favor.
3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 88.
4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 88 DELEGATE CANTU:
5 Sandy Cantu, Chapter 88, delegate.
6 Two in favor.
7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 100 DELEGATE: Chapter 100.
9 Two in favor.
10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
11 108.
12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 108 DELEGATE MOAT: Jim Moat.
13 We have five plus one in favor.
14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
15 111.
16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 111 DELEGATE FOREMAN:
17 Pat Foreman.
18 We have three in favor, Post 111 -- or
19 Chapter 111.
20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
21 119.
22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE ROSS: 119,
23 Michael Ross.
24 Six votes in favor.
25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

1 130.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 130 DELEGATE COX: Dave Cox,
3 Chapter 130.

4 We extend two positive votes.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

6 136.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 136 DELEGATE WATHEN:

8 Robert Wathen, 136.

9 Three votes against.

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You only get one
11 vote.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 136 DELEGATE WATHEN: One vote
13 against.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: One?

15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: One.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Thank you.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 146.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 146 DELEGATE DERR:

19 Kenneth Derr, 146.

20 Three votes -- four votes yay.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

22 149.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE TREUL:

24 Bryan Treul, Chapter 149.

25 Three votes for. Hoorah.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Excuse me. Does 149
2 have an additional vote?

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE TREUL: No. We
4 only brought three delegates.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You only have two
6 votes.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE TREUL: Yes. We
8 only have two delegates. I'm going home.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You only have two
10 votes.

11 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Then you only
12 have one.

13 ALR DOC CHAPTER 155 DELEGATE DE ARNA:
14 Mr. President, Rick De Arna, Chapter 155.
15 Three nays.

16 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
17 200.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 200 DELEGATE CHATEL:
19 Lupe Chatel, Chapter 200.

20 Four votes for.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
22 201.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 201 DELEGATE CLARK:
24 Jason Clark, Chapter 201.

25 Two votes for.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

2 202.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 202 DELEGATE REHM: Frank Rehm,

4 Chapter 202.

5 Three votes for.

6 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

7 211.

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 211 DELEGATE HAMBY:

9 Chuck Hamby, Chapter 211.

10 Three votes for.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

12 255.

13 ALR DOC CHAPTER 255 DELEGATE CANNEGIETER:

14 Marvin Cannegieter.

15 Three votes for the chapter, one for the

16 Sergeant-at-Arms, all in favor.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 262.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE BOSWELL:

19 Tim Boswell, Chapter 262.

20 Three votes in favor.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

22 263.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 263 DELEGATE CONVERSE:

24 Tom Converse.

25 Four votes nay.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You only get two.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 263 DELEGATE CONVERSE: Okay.

3 Two.

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Two votes nay?

5 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Two?

6 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Two, I guess.

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay.

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 264.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 264 DELEGATE FORKNER: 264,
10 Clarence Forkner.

11 One vote yes.

12 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

13 281.

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 281 DELEGATE SHUMATE:

15 Paul Shumate.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Hold on.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Hang on.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The last -- the last
19 chapter, was it 264? Would you please approach?

20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: I got him as yes. He
21 said yes.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Did you have two
23 votes or one vote?

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 264 DELEGATE FORKNER: One
25 vote.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Each chapter has two.

2 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: He only has one
3 delegate here.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Oh, one delegate.
5 Okay. My mistake.

6 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Let's do our
7 job.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. I have to
9 check him.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 281 DELEGATE SHUMATE:

11 Paul Shumate, 281.

12 Three yes.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

14 311.

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 311 DELEGATE GOFORTH:

16 Clyde Goforth, 311.

17 Two votes yes.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

19 328.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: 328, with six

21 delegates votes to accept.

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Five. And you have?

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: Six.

24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Oh, and Jake?

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: No. 328.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 328, you have five
2 votes. And who else? You have --

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: We have six
4 delegates.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Six delegates here,
6 you mean?

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: Six delegates
8 present on the floor and six votes to accept.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: But you only get five
10 votes.

11 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE: Okay. I guess
12 we have five then.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. Thank you.
14 I'm glad the other person came.

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 348 DELEGATE: Chapter 348, one
16 delegate present.

17 One vote aye, approve.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. 365.

19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE HAEUSSLER:
20 Art Haeussler, Chapter 365.

21 Three votes no.

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Did you get another
23 person to show up or still only two here?

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE HAEUSSLER: No.
25 All three delegates are present on the floor.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. I know
2 a couple other people came in right as we started,
3 so....

4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 371 DELEGATE FRANCO:
5 Jim Franco, Chapter 371 -- Chapter 371.

6 One delegate vote in favor.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
8 383.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 383 DELEGATE ELLIS:
10 Matthew Ellis, Chapter 383.

11 Three votes yay.

12 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
13 416.

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 416 DELEGATE SOUTHWELL:
15 Chapter 416, Kimberly Southwell.

16 Two delegate votes for approval.

17 ALR DOC CHAPTER 434 DELEGATE: Chapter 434.
18 Three votes for.

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
20 460.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 460 DELEGATE HENDRICKSON:
22 Todd Hendrickson.

23 Four delegates yes. 460.

24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
25 509.

1 ALR DOC CHAPTER 509 DELEGATE PROTZMAN:

2 Chapter 509, Bob Protzman.

3 Three votes yay.

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

5 519.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 519 DELEGATE TRIPP:

7 Alan Tripp, 519.

8 Two delegates for.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

10 521.

11 ALR DOC CHAPTER 521 DELEGATE MAGENTI:

12 Tim Magenti, 521.

13 Four votes for.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

15 534.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 534 DELEGATE BANAKUS:

17 Jim Banakus.

18 Delegates cast four votes yay. And I, as

19 Past State President, also support the motion.

20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

21 555.

22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE ZWEIFEL:

23 Yvonne Zweifel, Chapter 555.

24 Five yes.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

1 595.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 595 DELEGATE JAMISON:

3 Don Jamison, 595.

4 Three votes yes.

5 ALR DOC CHAPTER 694 DELEGATE WAGNER:

6 Tony Wagner, 694.

7 Two votes yes, one provisional yes.

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Did you have more
9 members show up? You only had one registered.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 694 DELEGATE WAGNER: We had
11 myself, Tony Wagner, and Carlos Estrada.

12 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. Two, gotcha,
13 and then one --

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 694 DELEGATE WAGNER: That
15 would be Carlos Estrada.

16 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The one at the end.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: So two plus one.

19 And that was a yay.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

22 711.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 711 DELEGATE STEPHENS: Good
24 morning, sir.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Good morning.

1 ALR DOC CHAPTER 711 DELEGATE STEPHENS: Three
2 votes yes.

3 Daures Stephens, Post 711.

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
5 716.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT:
7 Debbie Proffitt, Chapter 716.

8 Five votes yes.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
10 835.

11 ALR DOC CHAPTER 835 DELEGATE ORLANDO:
12 Chapter 835, James Orlando.

13 One vote in favor and one vote nay.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
15 848.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 848 DELEGATE: 848.
17 Three votes yes.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
19 852.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE PHILLIPS:
21 Leonard Phillips.

22 All five delegates vote yes.

23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE PHILLIPS:
25 Chapter 852.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY:

3 Stephanie Early, Chapter 872.

4 Two votes yes.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

6 District 2.

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not here.

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Not here. I'm sorry.

9 District 5.

10 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE SIMMONS:

11 Ray Simmons, District 5.

12 Four delegate votes no.

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

14 District 9.

15 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE FETTIG:

16 Tony Fettig, District 9.

17 I have a question for clarification. How many

18 delegate votes do you show, Mr. Weber?

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Three.

20 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE FETTIG: Three?

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Yeah.

22 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE FETTIG: We have
23 three votes yay and one vote nay for the Quartermaster.

24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 10.

25 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN:

1 Dan Freeman, District 10.

2 Three plus one, two delegates no, one delegate
3 yes. Plus one no.

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: One more time.

5 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: Three no,
6 one yes.

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No. Two and
8 two.

9 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: Two and
10 two.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Two and two?

12 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN: I have
13 three -- three no, one yes.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay.

15 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: Three
16 against, one yes.

17 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. And the
18 extra vote is for who?

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 13.

20 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay.

21 ALR DOC DISTRICT 13 DELEGATE HENRY:

22 Ernie Henry, District 13.

23 Four for approval.

24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

25 District 28.

1 ALR DOC DISTRICT 28 DELEGATE RAMSEY: Good
2 morning, sir. Sean Ramsey from District 28.
3 All of our delegates vote yes.
4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: How many?
5 ALR DOC DISTRICT 28 DELEGATE RAMSEY: Five --
6 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
7 ALR DOC DISTRICT 28 DELEGATE RAMSEY: -- plus
8 one.
9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.
10 Okay. For those not voting with their
11 chapters.
12 President Adames.
13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I vote last because
14 if there is a tie, I have to break it.
15 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes. That is
16 correct.
17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Not on this?
18 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No.
19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Vice President
20 Chris Coleman.
21 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: I vote yay.
22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Finance,
23 Don Christolear.
24 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: I vote yes.
25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Secretary Weber votes

1 yes.

2 Sergeant-at-Arms Paul Patricio.

3 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: I voted
4 with my chapter.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You did? Thank you.
6 Chaplain, I believe you voted with your
7 chapter.

8 ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: Yes, sir.

9 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Judge Advocate
10 Bob Stover.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yay.

12 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Quartermaster.

13 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: I voted with my
14 chapter.

15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

16 Poncho.

17 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: I voted
18 with my chapter, sir.

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

20 Historian, Jake?

21 ALR DOC HISTORIAN JACOBSEN: Yay.

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 1, Bob.

23 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN:
24 I voted with my chapter.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 2, Nacho?

1 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: Yes.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 3, J.D.?

3 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Area 3,
4 yes.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 5, Mick Sobczak?

6 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Yes.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Area 6, Dan Dale.

8 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: I voted
9 with my chapter.

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

11 Past President Doc Diaz.

12 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: I voted
13 already with the chapter.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

15 Safety Officer Marc Mathes.

16 ALR DOC SAFETY OFFICER MATHES: Yes.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Convention Rally and
18 Past President Terry Boughman.

19 ALR DOC CONVENTIONS BOUGHMAN: I voted with the
20 chapter.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

22 Past President Jim Banakus.

23 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT BANAKUS: I voted with
24 the chapter.

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

1 Past Secretary Anita.

2 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: I voted with my
3 chapter.

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

5 And Jeff is not here.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Stay tuned.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Do we need a definite
8 count?

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. We need
10 a definite count.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Want to take
12 a five-minute break?

13 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: I have it right
14 here.

15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You have the count?

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Give me just
17 a second, and I will give you the total.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: There was one
19 abstention; right?

20 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes. 188 to 20
21 with one abstention. Is that right? 209.

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 188 yes?

23 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes.

24 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Nay?

25 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: 20 nay with one

1 abstention.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: 20 nay.

3 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Does that match
4 your total delegate strength?

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Huh?

6 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Does that match
7 your total delegate strength?

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Actually, I don't
9 know right now.

10 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. Well,
11 I just recorded them as we went along.

12 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay. Our total for
13 the motion: Yeses, 188. Noes are 20, with one
14 abstention.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The motion carries.
16 (Applause.)

17 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE GUTHROW:
18 Mr. President, Donnie Guthrow, Post 328, Norco,
19 California.

20 I have got a question. We've got six delegates
21 here. Why do you tell us only five?

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: It goes by the
23 number of chapter members that you turned in with your
24 delegate roster.

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE GUTHROW: Really?

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes, sir.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE GUTHROW: Because
3 we turned in six.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: How many members do
5 you have?

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE GUTHROW: We have
7 ninety-two members.

8 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: They paid for
9 five.

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: What is the chapter
11 again?

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE GUTHROW:
13 Chapter 328. We are just under a hundred members.

14 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: You only paid
15 for five delegates.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE GUTHROW: Wow.

17 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Check
18 Number 655 for \$50.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Check Number 655 for
20 \$50.

21 Well, now that everybody can take a collective
22 breath, thank you. Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: My wife thanks
25 you.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. So now
2 we can go on. Commander Wilson, we can go on. We can
3 continue to do the great work that we do. Again, as was
4 pointed out, we are more than just a patch.

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Amen.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We do things for
7 veterans. That is our charter. That is the charter of
8 the American Legion. That is what we do. And it is
9 more than just what is this. It is about that.

10 (Applause.)

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And it is about
12 serving and serving this and those that stood for it,
13 those that died for it, and those that still defend it
14 today.

15 (Applause.)

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And now on a lighter
17 note, much lighter note, let's take this a different
18 direction. You know, we have had a lot of guest
19 speakers up here today, and one showed up here while we
20 were -- just before we did the vote and so I have to let
21 her speak. If I don't, I will hear it from every woman
22 imaginable, mainly my wife.

23 So please rise, and let's welcome the
24 Auxiliary State President Harriet Clendenin.

25 (Processional.)

1

2

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATE PRESIDENT

3

4

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATE PRESIDENT

5

CLENDENIN: Hi, everybody. I love doing that. Thank

6

you very much.

7

You know, I couldn't -- all the way from

8

Tehachapi, where I come from, I smelled leather; so

9

I had to come up here and say hello.

10

So thank you very much.

11

I really came up here just to wish you a really

12

successful convention, and it appears that it is,

13

considering what I just saw. Thank you.

14

And like -- like the Legion Riders and

15

everybody else, we are here to serve veterans.

16

And to the Auxiliary members out there, hi.

17

And to all of the veterans out there, bigger hi. And to

18

those who support our veterans, hi.

19

So anyways, I just wanted to say good luck,

20

have a great convention. Here is my pin.

21

ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

22

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATE PRESIDENT

23

CLENDENIN: And keep up the great work.

24

Thank you.

25

(Applause.)

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So I get wine.

2 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATE PRESIDENT

3 CLENDENIN: Not to whine.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: There is no whining

5 allowed; right?

6 AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATE PRESIDENT

7 CLENDENIN: Right.

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No whining

9 allowed.

10 (Processional.)

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Whew. That was

12 lively. Quite frankly, I didn't know where we were

13 going to go with this, and it is a great undertaking we

14 did. And this will pay off in the long run. You may

15 not like it, but it is something we had to get done.

16 And so we continue; so the next thing on the

17 agenda is convention announcements, and that is going to

18 be to J.D.

19 But while he is coming up here, somebody turned

20 in a receipt that they found on the floor to

21 Renegade Classics Outlet in Sacramento; so if you bought

22 something that was for \$104, I have got your receipt in

23 case you have got to return. It is a vest. Really.

24

25 ///

ANNOUNCEMENT

1

2

3

ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

4

Outstanding.

5

All right. I want to welcome everybody.

6

A little hard work went into putting this together, and

7

I want to thank everybody that took the time to ride out

8

to the central valley. Like Sheriff Mimms said, we have

9

a lot to offer in the central valley. As you have heard

10

a number of times, those foothills, there is nothing

11

like them; so I want to welcome everybody.

12

We have today -- the KIA Foundation is out here

13

in the hallway, and they are selling some things out

14

there as well. They have seven flags for our brothers

15

in arms that were killed in action. Please take the

16

time to stop by and sign those flags. They are right

17

out here in the hallway. I am sure you have seen them

18

sitting out here. They will be presented to the

19

families. And these are all local gold star families.

20

And just in this area alone, one of our Clovis

21

high schools, Buchanan High School, has lost seven sons.

22

We have a gold star father who is one of our

23

own Riders, John Ruiz. His son, Army Sergeant

24

Clint Ruiz, has a flag out there; so please take the

25

time to honor.

1 On a much lighter note we have Tops Military
2 Supply out there. He is one of our local vendors for
3 military supplies. He is a good friend of mine. He is
4 also a member of Post 509 here in Fresno. He is also
5 a Sons -- Past President of the Sons chapter squadron of
6 509, and he is out there as well selling items.

7 We have Gator Beads. It is the gentleman who
8 has all of the beads for military POW/MIA; so please
9 take the time to stop by our vendors and support them.
10 I know that a couple of our vendors are going to be
11 giving back 10 percent of their proceeds that they make
12 out there back to the American Legion Riders program.

13 You can clap for them.

14 (Applause.)

15 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: This
16 evening your host chapter, 23, has put together a dinner
17 dance that is going to be over in the Independence Hall
18 from 5:00 to 10:00. Tri-tip, teriyaki chicken, rice
19 pilaf -- they have a great dinner put together. They
20 are going to have a band playing out there, a live band
21 in Independence Hall. \$10 for tickets. That includes
22 your dinner and dance. It is the door right next to
23 this one right here. You go out these doors, down
24 a short hallway. Independence Hall is right there.
25 Where you check in at registration there is a door to

1 the left, that hall goes over there also; so
2 Independence Hall is right next to this. Come have
3 a good time tonight. Relax. There will be spirits; so
4 after a day like today, let's all have a drink, toast to
5 our fallen, and have a good time.

6 (Applause.)

7 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Okay.
8 As soon as we break for lunch we have a little tradition
9 that we always do. It is the photo of -- the group
10 photo. And if we could all meet out in front where we
11 came in for registration. We have a lot of memorials
12 out there. I think that would be a great place to have
13 a photo, and we can get lined up around that and take
14 a group photo and keep our traditions alive.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right.

18 (Applause.)

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. So according
20 to the agenda this afternoon we reconvene at
21 1:00 o'clock -- 1300 hours for us military types. And
22 then we will get to the area reports, and then we'll
23 recess for caucus -- caucus and elections. And then
24 we'll reconvene at, what, 2:30, 1430 --

25 Oh, you've got something to say for

1 announcement?

2

3

ANNOUNCEMENT

4

5 ALR DOC PAST SECRETARY BART: Anita Bart,
6 Chapter 23, again, delegate to the convention.

7 Resolutions Committee, if you could please meet
8 in room two right behind you here. We are getting
9 really close to lunchtime. Grab your lunch and go in
10 there because we have to have these resolutions that
11 were turned in this morning available this afternoon at
12 1:00 o'clock.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Are there any other
14 committees that need to meet?

15 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Uniform
16 Committee.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Where do you want to
18 meet?

19 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: I'm just going
20 to ask for some persons present. I'm just going to call
21 out some names to find out if they are here because
22 we're having problems getting them together. There is
23 going to be an issue later on.

24 Is David George here?

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: David George, are

1 you here?

2 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Area 1.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 1. There.

4 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER:

5 Michael Clement, Area 2.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Mike Clement is not
7 here.

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. I'm
9 hearing from Area 3.

10 Roger Condon.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Roger Condon?

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not here.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Not here.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: And

15 Larry Miller.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Larry Miller.

17 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay. I just
18 wanted to confirm that there wasn't someone else who had
19 arrived -- we have already met and done some other
20 things, but I just wanted to make sure that if there was
21 anyone else present we could go ahead and further meet
22 with them.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. All right.

24 So now that that first part was done, now we have to get
25 to -- get the information that we want into her hands so

1 we can get back to doing what we do normally.

2 We stand in recess until 1:00 o'clock. Thank
3 you. Lunch tickets are out front as he said, and we'll
4 gather outside for the photo.

5

6 RECESS FOR GROUP PHOTO

7

8 LUNCHEON RECESS

9

10 (Luncheon recess taken from
11 11:47 a.m. to 1:39 p.m.)

12

13 RECONVENE

14

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Well, while we are
16 waiting for J.D. to get out of the kitchen, how about
17 a nice round of applause for that lunch? Yeah. It was
18 great. Thanks.

19 (Applause.)

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sorry we had to wait
21 so long, but we had important business to take care of
22 this morning.

23 We haven't started yet. We are waiting for
24 you. By the way, you just got a nice round of applause
25 for lunch, as you bring it with you.

1 (Applause.)

2 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Thank
3 you.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right.

5 (Applause.)

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Oh, come on. You
7 all can do better than that.

8 (Applause.)

9 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Again,
10 we apologize for the delay. We only sold thirty this
11 morning. It went to two hundred; so hope everybody
12 enjoyed it.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We're back in
14 session.

15 All right. So without -- you know, we --
16 because of everything -- the importance of this morning
17 and everything that we had to do; so we are a little bit
18 behind.

19 All right?

20

21 AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

22

23 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

24 PRESIDENT ADAMES: So I have to give out some
25 presentations and some awards to some deserving

1 chapters. The first one is -- actually, if we can get
2 Janet back up here.

3 Sergeant-at-Arms, would you please escort the
4 Commander back up here.

5 (Processional.)

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now, Commander.

7 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Yes,

8 Mr. President.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Say that again.

10 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Yes,

11 Mr. President. Happy birthday.

12 (Applause.)

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: There you go.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Well, it's not my --
15 and I blush easy.

16 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Look it, he's glowing.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Because I was so
18 focused on things this morning, I actually forgot to
19 give you your convention pin --

20 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Yay.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- and your
22 convention shirt.

23 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Yay.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: This is for her.

25 (Applause.)

1 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: That's it?

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: That's it.

3 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: All right.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Let's -- let's clap
5 her off.

6 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Clap on, clap
7 off.

8 (Processional.)

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now, as you well
10 know, we -- we do a lot of charitable stuff, a lot of
11 charitable things. And one of the things that we do is
12 we always give to the Legacy Fund. We always have, and
13 probably will always continue to do so. But some
14 chapters have gone above and beyond, and they were
15 recognized nationally. And I have got three awards here
16 for three deserving chapters.

17 And the first one is -- and I don't know if
18 they are here or not -- it is 741.

19 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: No.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: They are not here?

21 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Probably busy
22 raising money.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 2, would you
24 please come -- or correction. Area 6, would you please
25 come and accept on behalf of 741. It is actually a very

1 nice spot. There you go.

2 (Applause.)

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: It says, for those
4 of you who asked:

5 "The American Legion Legacy Rider
6 scholarship award providing for the children
7 left behind. It is the least we can do."

8 And it says:

9 "Thank you for your generous donations."

10 The next one is Post -- or Post 192. 192.
11 Anybody here? 192? What area? Nobody knows what area
12 192 is in?

13 Okay. So we'll make sure they get that one.

14 Now I know this next post and chapter is here,
15 48.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE: 48.

17 (Applause.)

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I know they are
19 here; so you need to come up around and grab this.

20 (Processional.)

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: Thank you,
23 Commander. Ooh, yeah, 48.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: It is going to go in
25 our new post. We just got a new building, and that is

1 going to be one of the first things that go up.

2 Thank you.

3 (Processional.)

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. How are
5 you feeling?

6 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Two hands.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: With your hands,
8 yes. So as was pointed out to me by several, several
9 people, you can actually see the -- I don't hide my
10 feelings well, and so this morning was really important.
11 As the votes went on I got more and more calm, and so
12 that's where we are at now.

13

14 AREA REPORTS

15

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And let's go on with
17 the business. We are reconvened; so we are now going to
18 hear from the Area Presidents -- or correction. Area
19 Vice Presidents on what has been going on.

20 So Area 1, Mr. Perryman.

21

22 AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

23

24 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: Do

25 I have to come up there?

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Come up here. Don't
2 be scared.

3 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: I'm
4 not fat. Does this podium make me look fat?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Short.

6 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: I'm
7 never going to wear this shirt again.

8 Area 1, the whole area is busy. All of the
9 chapters up there are pretty busy in their areas. One
10 thing I have done as a Vice President up there is I have
11 started an Uber conference with all of my presidents
12 once a month. And we get together. It kind of gives me
13 more communication to them. They let me know what is
14 going on in their areas, in their chapters, and we can
15 get the information out to all of the other chapters; so
16 we are starting to get a lot more activity between the
17 chapters.

18 Two new chapters. We have Chapter 264 and
19 Chapter 130, who just came in. Welcome.

20 (Applause.)

21 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: 264.
22 Is anybody here from 264? I know we are -- I thought
23 I saw --

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right over there.

25 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: All

1 right. 264. We don't have your charter ready, but you
2 just got in, so....

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: There.

4 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: I was
5 waiting for them to call your number, but they didn't
6 get it ready; so it is not my fault.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No. It is mine.

8 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: We
9 have been doing a lot of welcome homes, a lot of funeral
10 escorts. You know, being close to Dixon cemetery we get
11 involved in a lot of those with 119, Rolling 9s, and 77,
12 and a lot of the posts around there -- or chapters
13 around there.

14 Chapter 77 had a unique situation. We had
15 a young man killed in Vietnam in 1966. He was killed
16 one day, his first day of his second tour, almost to the
17 day three months prior his younger brother was killed in
18 Vietnam too. He has never been recovered. He is MIA.
19 He was pronounced dead. It was in a helicopter, shot
20 down. He was in an extraction crew. But anyway, his
21 MIA bracelet was held for over twenty years by a lady in
22 Arizona, and then she finally decided it should go back
23 to the family; so one of the Chapter 77 Riders rode down
24 to Phoenix, picked that bracelet up, and brought it
25 back -- Staff Sergeant Shimm and brought it back to

1 Woodland. We had a -- I guess a recovery ceremony over
2 there. We presented that with -- Chapter 77 directed
3 it. We presented that to the family and had a lot of
4 participation with the Riders in the area.

5 And we also started the Shimm project, and what
6 that is is they are building a -- they are rebuilding
7 a truck. I believe it is a '77 Chevy one-ton truck that
8 they are going to use as a chase vehicle for their run
9 to the wall next year, 2016, supported by the community
10 and by Post 77. It was a pretty moving, pretty
11 emotional ceremony when they presented that to the
12 family.

13 We also participated in the Homes for Troops.
14 If you have never been to one of those, I encourage you
15 to go. It is a -- that is a pretty -- pretty touching
16 also.

17 Four of the chapters up there, including 521,
18 my home chapter, we participated in the standdowns.
19 Those are starting up. Everybody is having their Poker
20 runs. Chapter 111, 77 -- 521 is having their Poker run,
21 imagine that, next Saturday. You are all invited.

22 521 is also doing something unique. We are
23 really getting out in the community in our hometown.
24 I live in a little, small town. A few of you have been
25 there. Mr. Adames has been there. Commander Wilson has

1 been there. It is one of those little towns where if
2 you turn right, you are out of town. Okay?

3 By the way --

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Turn left and you
5 are out of town.

6 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: Yeah.
7 After President Adames spent the night I burned the bed.

8 So anyway, we have a mayor's race down there.
9 And this is like -- if you guys live in a little town,
10 maybe you do the same thing. We have a mayor's race
11 there, and what it is is you sell tickets, and whoever
12 sells the most tickets wins the mayor's race. Well, it
13 is all for nonprofit organizations and prior to us --
14 two years ago we -- we won it. Last year we won it.
15 And this year we are running it again. And prior to us
16 winning it, the Legion Riders, it was always the
17 Moose Lodge; so we have taken it away.

18 I'd like the mayor to please stand up.

19 (Applause.)

20 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: He
21 sold over 5,000 tickets last year, and we got \$2500 of
22 that. It is a 50/50 split; so if you guys ever get in
23 a little situation like that, it is a good fundraiser
24 for you.

25 Also, we are bringing Legion baseball back to

1 521.

2 (Applause.)

3 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: We
4 have got -- we have got an organization there that wants
5 to do it. I am working on the post right now to try to
6 get them to participate, but if not, the Legion Riders
7 are going to fund it, but we will have Legion baseball
8 back in Riverdale, and we'll be back at Yountville.

9 What else do I have? We have our officer
10 elections coming up area wide. Almost all of the posts
11 are going to be doing that. And other than that, if you
12 ever want to go riding in a rural area, give me a call.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 2,
16 Ignacio Alvarez.

17

18 AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

19

20 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: Thank
21 you, sir.

22 Good afternoon, everyone. Hope everyone
23 enjoyed their lunch. I know it was a little trying in
24 line, but as soon as we got served it was like ha, ha,
25 ha to those waiting in line. We got to eat.

1 First of all, J.D., he really, really pulled
2 off this great convention, great facilities, everything
3 is so well organized. And I know that he did this, for
4 the most part, you know, on his own with his
5 supporters -- with his core group of supporters. First
6 of all, I want to acknowledge what a great job you did.

7 So thank you very much.

8 (Applause.)

9 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: Okay.
10 Area 2 report. One of the most important things that we
11 were able to do as American Legion Riders and as your
12 Area 2 representatives is to increase the number of
13 chapters; so for every two we increased our numbers by
14 10 percent. Okay? We went from nine to ten, but do the
15 math. That is 10 percent. That sounds good; right?
16 10 percent; so I challenge you all: 10 percent.

17 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: We did
18 20 percent. That was one.

19 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: All
20 right. So one of the most exciting things and most
21 rewarding things we did in Area 2, we were honored to
22 escort the National Commander. We were riding our
23 motorcycles, and we picked them up in Santa Clara and
24 took them down to a marina and ultimately ended up in
25 Carmel, California; so once again, it was one of the

1 most exciting things to do is to get to escort the
2 American Legion National Commander, and he still, again,
3 raves about the event.

4 Another really important event that honored our
5 legacy as Riders, we escorted the R2R. As you know,
6 that is one of the important runs we have here in
7 California whereby we escort those disabled service
8 members, multiple amputees at times. And on that ride
9 my wife joined me for the first time in riding my
10 motorcycles. And if anyone has had the experience that
11 we had, I just wish you the best of luck. She actually
12 passed out. We were in Gilroy, the Gilroy mountains,
13 and it was about 105 degrees. And she went limp on the
14 back of the motorcycle. And I could not put my
15 kickstand down to get off the bike to help her because
16 if I did, she would go tumbling; so just be careful up
17 there. Keep yourself hydrated, especially when you are
18 riding in hot temperatures.

19 One of the honor -- one of the things that we
20 were proud of that we started is the Livermore Fund. We
21 have asked all of the -- the ten chapters involved in
22 Area 2 to contribute to the Livermore -- the VA
23 hospital, and now we have seed money that we are able
24 to, again, pay homage to our soldiers -- our service
25 members from various branches by giving them a barbecue;

1 so if any of you are at the Livermore VA hospital on
2 May 2nd, we will be there delivering meals to our
3 service members there. And I can't say just how much,
4 but Mike Nettles in previous years, Area 2, he has been
5 a great supporter of your Area 2 representative. And
6 I thank him very much for his assistance in making this
7 Livermore Fund, in creating it.

8 We have also established a Uber conference, but
9 I also believe that having a face-to-face meeting just
10 means so much more than just getting on a phone
11 conference. And, of course, having to identify yourself
12 over and over -- you know, at times you recognize those
13 voices, but I think it is important for us to sit face
14 to face and have these meetings. And not only that, but
15 also the plan is to create an Area 2 wide fundraiser.
16 And not only that, but to also have activities for
17 Area 2 chapters.

18 One of my goals personally, should you wish to
19 have me represent you for the following year, would be
20 to visit each of the chapters during your monthly
21 meetings. It is important to be there with all of the
22 brothers and sisters at your meetings and seeing how the
23 meetings progress.

24 And last, but not least, a very important --
25 I don't know if you have seen the KIA program and the

1 KIA flags out there. If -- those of you that went to
2 the rally at Post 31, we are very staunch supporters of
3 the KIA program. And this is a way for us to pay honor
4 to those families that gave the ultimate sacrifice; so
5 we are hoping that each and every one of you -- each
6 person can actually be a sponsor in support of this KIA
7 program. It is a nonprofit organization. They are
8 502(c)(3), 501(c)(3). They are a nonprofit
9 organization. And all you need to do is get the
10 information for the fallen service member.

11 And then, please, if you have not yet signed
12 those flags that are out there, please do so. We will
13 be addressing our brother J.D. to make those
14 presentations to the families. It is a very important
15 basically commemoration of their fallen family members.
16 And, remember, they are part of our family as well.

17 That's all I have for Area 2; so thank you very
18 much.

19 (Applause.)

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 3, J.D.
21 Mr. Bennett, please.

22

23 AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

24

25 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Area 3

1 is a pretty good-sized area. I didn't realize that
2 until I hopped on the scooter and started traveling
3 around, going from Kern County all the way up to Amador,
4 at the state line, over to Santa Barbara. And I'm
5 thinking, good God, it's a lot of -- I went through
6 a tire. But it has been a -- it has been a great,
7 eye-opening experience and a blessing to serve in
8 Area 3.

9 I had my Area 3 Vice Presidents meeting up at
10 Castle Air Museum. And, wow, that place is amazing.
11 When I came back on the honor flight, we landed at
12 Castle Air Force base. And as we are coming in, I'm
13 looking down at the top. They have got this huge
14 display, it is an array of planes from World War I,
15 World War II, all the way up to modern day. And it was
16 amazing. I thought, I am going to have my meeting up
17 there. And they did a great job. We had lunch up there
18 and had a meeting and they took us for a tour. Awesome.
19 It was awesome; so if you haven't been to Castle Air
20 Base in Atwater, where they used to have the Air Force
21 base, take a trip up there sometime. That place is
22 amazing.

23 And Nacho?

24 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: Yes,
25 sir.

1 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

2 I haven't heard anybody mention the rally that you put
3 on over there in Area 2. And I got a chance to ride
4 over there with a couple of our chapter members. Great
5 job on that as well. I think he deserves a hand for the
6 rally.

7 (Applause.)

8 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Oh, and
9 the ice bucket challenge. A couple of heart attacks,
10 but hey. I think that was from the alcohol, not the
11 ice.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: It is a drinking issue.

13 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Okay.

14 Area 3, we have -- we have initiated two new chapters.

15 Bakersfield 682, are you here?

16 And Lodi, Post 22.

17 ALR DOC CHAPTER 22 DELEGATE: Here.

18 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

19 Outstanding.

20 (Applause.)

21 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: I have
22 got another one, 684 out of Ridgecrest. I've got all of
23 their paperwork. We are going to be voting on them at
24 the next DEC, which is going to be tomorrow. All of the
25 paperwork in order. It looks like they are going to be

1 coming on as well; so there will be three new chapters
2 in Area 3. And I have got a fourth chapter that is
3 pending. They are kind of off and on with membership.
4 But it is 148 out of Chowchilla, and they are excited.
5 They can't get enough members to step up to be officers;
6 so we have been busy trying to bring new chapters in as
7 well and growing this program.

8 We have participated in -- a couple of chapters
9 locally participated in a wreath ceremony that happens
10 once a year. It was at Clovis ceremony this year for
11 our area. And we had a great contention of Riders up
12 there, predominantly from 509 out of Fresno. 509?
13 Yeah.

14 Another thing 509 got the honor of doing this
15 year is escorting the remains of ashes of a fallen
16 soldier whose ashes had been placed in a garage and had
17 been there for years. They were having an estate sale.
18 Anybody ever been to an estate sale? And the ashes were
19 found. And after nobody claimed the ashes, the 509
20 escorted the remains to Santa Nella National Cemetery.

21 On Memorial Day we promote -- we -- around the
22 valley here we have a lot of cemeteries that honor our
23 veterans, and I participated in the one out in Sanger,
24 and that was -- that was a really nice event for a small
25 area. We have a couple in Fresno. And I know they had

1 one in Merced, and Modesto also had them. I'm probably
2 sure Bakersfield did. I didn't hear a report on those.
3 But we were active in -- this past year in those events
4 as well.

5 We also had several chapters that escorted --
6 throughout Area 3 that escorted the traveling wall as it
7 came through, and I want to put a big shout out to those
8 guys. And to all my Vietnam veteran brothers, welcome
9 home.

10 They also -- we had chapters throughout the --
11 area 3 that escorted our National Commander Helm
12 throughout the valley while he was making a trip
13 throughout California as well.

14 And I am being in remiss not to mention that
15 the department headquarters, currently located in
16 San Francisco, has been authorized to move to Sanger,
17 California, in Fresno County in Area 3. I am stoked
18 about that.

19 (Applause.)

20 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Also,
21 today with us we have a guest that I have brought in.
22 He will be speaking a little bit later, Justin Bond,
23 sitting over there with his pal, Boomer. Justin is an
24 Iraq War veteran, Bronze Star and Purple Heart
25 recipient, president and founder of Our Heroes Dreams.

1 And I have had the pleasure and opportunity to work with
2 Justin a lot lately.

3 And one of the things that Our Heroes Dreams
4 and Chapter 100, Chapter 23, Chapter 3, and Chapter 509
5 participated recently in the landscaping of -- of a home
6 for specialist Fidel Bobadilla, who is a double amputee
7 out of Afghanistan. And he has been given a home from
8 Homes For Our Troops. And we were -- we had the honor
9 of going out and landscaping his new home. And the key
10 ceremony is going to be April 25th. He is going to
11 receive a brand-new home, free and clear in title, fully
12 landscaped, fully furnished, and him and his family are
13 going to have a good quality of life.

14 (Applause.)

15 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

16 Mr. President, Area 3 report.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And that's what we
20 do. That's what we do.

21 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK:

22 Progress.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 5, progress.

24 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK:

25 Progress.

1 (Applause.)

2

3 AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

4

5 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I want
6 to start by saying thank you for allowing me to still
7 have part of the meeting where I could talk; so
8 I appreciate your vote this morning. I really do.

9 Area 5 over the past year has done a lot. We
10 have got twenty-eight -- actually, twenty-seven -- we
11 have two new chapters this year, Chapter 201 and
12 Chapter 835, and we will recognize them later. We voted
13 to pull the charter of a chapter yesterday because they
14 were noncompliant. I don't have a problem doing that
15 because all of us as Riders, we need to have the cream
16 of the crop up there, and if they are going to be
17 a detriment to us, I don't have a problem saying
18 good-bye.

19 I have also been working with Area 4. We are
20 going to be bringing the Riders back to Area 4 in
21 Los Angeles County.

22 (Applause.)

23 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: We will
24 be voting in the next month for Chapter 804 -- Post 804,
25 and they will be coming in with about twenty-three

1 members.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: All right.

3 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: We will
4 also be working with the Los Angeles PD post and
5 a couple of others there to go ahead and make sure the
6 Riders are entrenched in Area 4 and we have
7 representation through 100 percent of the state.

8 (Applause.)

9 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Okay.
10 For those of you who knew me last year at convention,
11 you saw me hobbling around on a walker. I didn't get to
12 get back on my bike until sometime around June. In that
13 time, from June to about now, I have put 12,000 miles on
14 my motorcycle visiting my chapters.

15 And they have put on a lot of events. In this
16 past year, between breakfast, lunch, and Poker runs,
17 over three hundred events.

18 I'd like to have the delegates from Chapter
19 852, if you guys would stand up. Yesterday they put on
20 their Poker run race. \$60,000.

21 (Applause.)

22 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: All
23 five of them were instrumental on the golf committee on
24 that; so I would like to give them kudos because that is
25 a lot of money to go to veterans causes.

1 (Applause.)

2 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: You can
3 sit down. I'm sorry. Golf tournament, not Poker run.
4 Golf tournament; so I apologize for that. It is a golf
5 tournament.

6 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Apples, oranges.

7 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK:
8 Actually, the Poker run probably raised about \$5,000
9 this year.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Was that golf tournament held
11 with golf clubs?

12 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Yes.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We got to ride on the golf
14 course on our bikes, though.

15 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Yes.

16 So you know, we do a lot of good things down
17 there. You know, we have a lot of fun. If I don't get
18 reelected to anything, I just want to say it has been an
19 honor getting to know all of you guys through the years,
20 you know, driving around, riding my bike. That is what
21 we do as Riders. It is in our name. And I will
22 continue to ride around and visit all you guys because
23 it is an honor knowing every single one of you.

24 Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. I've got to
2 give him a hard time for saying Poker run, you know,
3 when it was actually golf.

4 So anyway, to move on, Dan Dale, Area 6.

5 (Applause.)

6

7 AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

8

9 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Area 6
10 stays real busy with lots and lots of funerals, escorts,
11 welcome homes, Poker runs, veterans standdowns. And one
12 of our problems is so many of them are scheduled on the
13 same weekends, and we can't make them all. I personally
14 rode on eighty-two events this year and stayed busy all
15 of the time.

16 But I'd like to have everybody, if you have got
17 a pencil and paper, take it out right now, write down
18 this date, and start thinking about this one. Next
19 year's convention is in San Luis Obispo.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah, baby.

21 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Okay. The
22 veterans hall there seats four-hundred-plus people in
23 old nostalgia with a veterans museum that is down in the
24 basement and the veterans service officers that are down
25 below there, and our post is in the parking lot. The

1 post can only probably park one hundred fifty
2 motorcycles at a time. But we are within one block
3 walking distance to fourteen different hotels. I have
4 already been to eight of those hotels and asked for
5 blocks of rooms to be set aside. I have got them set
6 aside from \$89 a night, \$99 a night, 120 a night. A lot
7 of different hotels. For those of you that might do it
8 the same way as you did it this year and you are going
9 to wait until the week before --

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Or the night of.

11 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: -- or the
12 night of. As I saw some of you driving in you are
13 going, where can I find a hotel?

14 So anyway, we are also right directly across
15 the street from the Holiday Inn, and the Holiday Inn has
16 got one hundred ten rooms, or something like that, and
17 they said they would be glad to accommodate us and set
18 aside a block of rooms starting at \$212 per night. From
19 there it goes up; so please don't wait until the last
20 minute because all of the 89, 99, 99, and 109 rooms will
21 be gone. But we will have shuttles to other hotels that
22 are further away, if necessary. Bring your families
23 over. Bring your RVs over. Stay in Pismo, if you would
24 like, on the beach. Let the kids run and play. It is
25 a beautiful coast to ride on every day.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yes, it is.

2 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: I retired
3 over to San Luis Obispo from Area 3. I had to get out
4 of the smog. I just had to. I'm sorry. But anyway --

5 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Not
6 everybody can put up with it.

7 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: After
8 thirty years of living in the Porterville area, I went
9 to the coast, and I have got no regrets. It is
10 a beautiful place to visit. I'm looking forward to all
11 of you coming for our convention next year. We already
12 have our food committee working. We have already got
13 the hotel committee working. We have got a post
14 committee working.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: What dates?

16 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: The dates
17 of this --

18 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: You asked us to
19 get our pencils out.

20 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: It is an
21 age thing. I was having you write down all of the
22 numbers. The dates are April 22nd, 23rd. It is that
23 Friday, Saturday, and Sunday; so April 22nd and 23rd are
24 the Friday nights, Saturday nights that I have been
25 booking the rooms; so if you -- 22, 23, 24. I think

1 that is going to be 2016. They are a lot of help to me.

2 I would like to address one other thing that
3 was brought up by one of the chapters from Area 6
4 earlier because I think it is relevant to every one of
5 you. One of my chapter members spoke today and said,
6 I didn't know anything about any of this stuff coming
7 on. I didn't know about what was happening.

8 The majority of you in here are not Rider
9 Presidents. You are Riders that elect your officers.
10 I average three to five e-mails a week to all of my
11 Rider Presidents. I ask for them, on certain things
12 I highlighted, send this to all of your members. Make
13 sure you bring this up at your meeting. And like with
14 the convention, all of the delegate forms, all of the
15 procedures here were shared, and yet they arrived with
16 nothing.

17 Communication. We were talking about
18 communication as being very, very important. The
19 communication that is lacking at the Legion level is at
20 least equal to the lack of communication at the Riders
21 level. When I had to meet with a new Post Commander who
22 said our post doesn't have Riders, and there were
23 a chapter of Riders there -- and he was the Post
24 Commander for six months and he did not know he had
25 Riders. I had to introduce them to each other.

1 Some of our biggest posts, some of our biggest
2 chapters, between the post and the chapter they are not
3 communicating. And our leaders that you elect -- you
4 are the ones that are electing your leaders -- make sure
5 that they get their forms turned in. I only can look at
6 an e-mail address and a phone number and make calls to
7 those, and I find out, oh, no. He hasn't been the
8 president in two years. Could you tell me who your
9 president is? And that is a lot of what I have had to
10 deal with this year.

11 I have got a lot of great chapters. We are
12 doing a lot of good things on the central coast, and you
13 are going to see a lot of good times when you come over
14 next year, April 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of 2016.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17

18 OUR HEROES DREAMS

19

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. Now, the
21 next thing that we are going to do is -- actually, I'm
22 going to have the young man come speak to us before we
23 break off into area caucus and for elections. And I'll
24 speak more to that.

25 J.D., would you want to introduce your guest

1 speaker?

2 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

3 Sergeant-at-Arms, could you escort him up here, please?

4 (Processional.)

5 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Thank

6 you. This is kind of a sick joke, but I love Justin,

7 and he and I have this kind of a relationship. That

8 should have been (Clap. Clap. Clap.)

9 No. We are brothers, and I do work with him
10 very closely as the President of his organization. We
11 do a lot of traveling together.

12 Justin, like I said, is an Iraq War veteran.
13 He lost his left leg in the battle of Fallujah and came
14 home and had it in his heart to work on this suicide
15 rate of twenty-two per day. That's an alarming rate.
16 And Justin had the intestinal fortitude to step up start
17 an organization called Our Heroes Dreams,
18 ourheroesdreams.org, and work with veterans with serious
19 PTSD issues, suicidal ideations, get them into a program
20 and help them through those issues. And he started that
21 organization by himself, worked with that for a couple
22 of years with no help, and then finally started reaching
23 out. And we have got an entire board. We have got
24 a 501 that is doing this now.

25 And I can't -- I can't think of a better person

1 to lead it with the heart that he has got. And my
2 special -- my -- special to my heart is Boomer. Huh,
3 Boomer? That's my buddy.

4 (Applause.)

5 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:
6 Justin Bond.

7 (Applause.)

8 OUR HEROES DREAMS PRESIDENT BOND: Thank you.

9 It is good to be here with you guys, brothers
10 and sisters in arms, you know. You guys do such great
11 work. I don't know if I -- some of the districts here.
12 I don't know if I can go out to the gravesite and escort
13 a fallen soldier or a Marine or soldier that just came
14 home and guide the families over and over and over like
15 you do. I have done it some, and it breaks my heart
16 every time, and you'll stand out there and be ready to
17 do it again tomorrow. I salute you guys and gals. You
18 guys do a lot of good work.

19 You know, when I did return home, as many of
20 you, you know, you come home. And if you are wounded,
21 you sit in the hospital for a while. You try to figure
22 things out, but pretty soon all I noticed was everybody
23 was dying. I lost nine friends in a short period of
24 time in the hospital to suicide. I thought, man,
25 something is not right here.

1 You know, we are losing more to suicide here at
2 home than we are in combat total. Twenty-two a day.
3 The new numbers just put out by the government were
4 90,000 since the war started. 90,000 suicides and
5 climbing daily. You know, 68 percent of those were
6 getting help for at least a year in the VA system -- at
7 least a year or more. 68 percent of the 90,000 were at
8 least getting help for a year and they still committed
9 suicide.

10 A couple years ago, in 2012, we made a stop
11 here in this building when we rode segue across America,
12 me and another veteran. We went from Monterey to
13 Florida and we -- on that trip we stopped at the
14 Sam Rayburn Institute in Texas, the second largest there
15 in America. They said 100 percent of the guys and gals
16 that committed suicide on their watch asked for help
17 within a week. 100 percent. How is that possible?
18 They came in and asked for help. There is a huge
19 disconnect here, folks.

20 You can't take a government system to come in
21 and fix us. The government tries to take care of us.
22 They screw it up. But who takes care of us?

23 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: We do.

24 OUR HEROES DREAMS PRESIDENT BOND: We do. We
25 take care of our own. And that is where the program has

1 evolved to.

2 You know, you get these young eighteen,
3 nineteen, twenty-year-old kids, they come back and they
4 are -- they come in and they are wounded physically or
5 mentally. The average tours are four right now. Some
6 of them -- we just had a guy commit suicide after his
7 eleventh. And they come back, and they come into the VA
8 system. And this VA counselor says, hey, how did you
9 feel when that happened to you?

10 And they are, like, what are you talking about,
11 when that happened to me?

12 You see, they are treating us for PTSD, but
13 PTSD is a traumatic event. That is a rape, a car wreck,
14 a fire fight -- a fire fight, maybe the Boston bombings.
15 What we have is -- like, in civilian terms is like
16 sitting in a young kid to downtown L.A. or Chicago,
17 saying you guys are going to clean up all of the bad
18 guys off of the street. You are going to get all of the
19 drugs off the street. You are going to take all of the
20 drug lords out. And, by the way, you are going to do
21 this for one year. You are going to be sleeping on the
22 sidewalks while you are fighting for us. And you'd
23 better not go to sleep all the way. And in one year, if
24 you make it, you are going to come home and take
25 a little bit of a break, and you are going to come back

1 and do this again and again and again. And when you do
2 return home, some counselor that has never been anywhere
3 except trained by the book, civilian, opens it up and
4 says, oh, wait. How did you feel when this happened to
5 you?

6 Well, this wasn't a traumatic event. This was
7 a traumatic lifestyle that we have gone through. PTSD
8 training does not work. And these young kids all of
9 a sudden -- because if you are eighteen, nineteen,
10 twenty, you know everything; right? Mom and Dad don't
11 know anything. How are we going to go in and have
12 a counselor tell us why we are broken? America slapped
13 the word hero on our back, gave us license to kill.
14 They put the price of freedom on our shoulders, and they
15 sent us overseas -- many straight out of high school --
16 and we returned home for them to tell us that we are
17 broken for that? And there is huge disconnects.

18 I went through five counselors. I know many
19 that went through many more. A lot of them like to turn
20 on their computer, watch the combat footage, tell me how
21 it makes you feel. Are you stupid? A special kind of
22 stupid.

23 So what we did is we stopped using traditional
24 counseling. We have a spot over in Monterey that we
25 have been able to use but on a very part-time basis. We

1 want to start -- we want to get a piece of land over
2 there. We want to get a piece of land here in the
3 valley, and we want to start going full time with this.
4 And what we are doing is we are using Vietnam and Korean
5 and World War II vets that come in and mentor the
6 returning vets. And now when this returning vet is
7 sitting there and all frustrated with the system and you
8 are sitting around a campfire, and the Vietnam vet says,
9 son, let me tell you how to get to tomorrow because
10 today sucks. And I know what it is like to have
11 nightmares. And let me tell you how to get to next
12 month, next year. In fact, let me tell you how to get
13 to ten years from now. Let me tell you how to get to
14 forty years from now.

15 And all of a sudden this returning vet says,
16 you know what? I thought I was all alone. Nobody
17 understood this. And as everything starts to break
18 down, the Vietnam and the Korean and the World War II
19 vets, now their wars have more meaning because they are
20 starting to save the current vets. And the current vets
21 are understanding that they are not alone. They have
22 been through this and they have guidance and they have
23 people that they can look up to, and it breaks
24 everything down.

25 And then what we do is we have teamed up with

1 veterans and nonprofits all over the country, like
2 Chase Bank is giving away 1,000 foreclosed homes.
3 Homes For Our Troops is giving away homes. Home Depot
4 is giving away \$80 million in materials in three years
5 to fix up veterans homes and buildings. Car repairs,
6 financial home. Your power could be off, your
7 refrigerator empty, and everything. And while you are
8 there that week, we try and take care of all of it to
9 take the stressors off of your shoulders.

10 Also, while you are there an elephant is going
11 to deliver your breakfast in the morning. He is going
12 to come up and deliver your breakfast. You can ride
13 elephants. You can swim with dolphins, feed lions and
14 tigers. You can play with kangaroos and zebras and
15 monkeys. It is really cool.

16 And while the vets are talking over on the
17 side, we have our kids groups going over on the other
18 side. And the one daughter says, wait a minute. Your
19 daddy wakes up in the middle of the night and punches
20 holes in the wall with his head too? I thought I was
21 all alone.

22 And the wives say, I don't know where to turn.
23 I didn't know that there was more people. I didn't know
24 who to go to. And so pretty soon the whole family is
25 starting to do this, and we get the families back

1 together. We take them to the aquarium. We take them
2 to all kinds of places to just get them to open up to
3 each other.

4 And then as a veteran you need that adrenaline
5 rush; right? So we take them skydiving, scuba diving.
6 We let them know that you can live again. You don't
7 have to, you know -- you should have seen J.D. running
8 from a shark.

9 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Land
10 shark.

11 OUR HEROES DREAMS PRESIDENT BOND: Yeah. It is
12 awesome. And you know what? If we send them home now,
13 they still commit suicide. Every program out there
14 pretty much ends right there. I have read a suicide
15 note from a guy that got a million and a half dollar
16 home in Texas that said, thank you. Now that my family
17 is taken care of I can finally check out. In fact, just
18 last month we got another Homes For Our Troops that read
19 the same way.

20 It doesn't fix it. What we do next is along
21 with working with the Vietnam and the past-generation
22 vets, the next thing we do is help them find a new
23 mission. That's the next biggest thing. We help them
24 find a new mission to replace the mission they had
25 before.

1 I'll give you an example of one right here in
2 Fresno that we did. This guy had not left his home in
3 three years. He had not hugged and kissed his wife for
4 five years. His family left. They called me and said,
5 you've got to go help this guy. And I went over,
6 knocked on his door. He wouldn't answer, wouldn't
7 answer. Finally, I pounded on it, and finally he goes,
8 go away.

9 I said, I'm not going to leave until you
10 answer, bud.

11 And he answers. He opens the door, and I saw
12 hundreds of pizza boxes stacked up along the walls. He
13 wouldn't leave the house. And the smell of mold knocked
14 me back. I could see mold growing on the walls.

15 I said -- I said, we're going to have an event
16 over here and your unit -- a few of your unit, your best
17 friends -- I knew -- we had researched all this and knew
18 who his friends were. They are going to be over there,
19 and your family is coming too.

20 He was, like, my family? So we -- we got him
21 and his family out there. We took them through the
22 whole program. And in the end we asked him -- you know,
23 we fixed -- we got his car repaired. \$97,000 in home
24 repairs, new roof, carpet, flooring, paint. We had to
25 replace almost three-quarters of the Sheetrock in his

1 house because of mold.

2 And in the end we asked him, what did you used
3 to do in life?

4 He said, well, I used to backpack, hike, and
5 camp; so we contacted the forest service, and they said,
6 well, we have got trails that have been closed. If he
7 will maintain one, we'll put his name on it. Now, his
8 wife is, like, I wish he would come home more than three
9 nights a week or four nights a week.

10 It is all about replacing that mission, giving
11 him a reason to live, a higher purpose. It is hard to
12 replace the mission of defending America and carrying
13 the price of freedom on your shoulders, but if you give
14 them something that is worthwhile, they will give it
15 a go. That's why I am up; otherwise, I would be on the
16 couch self medicating.

17 Anyway, there is a lot of work to be done. If
18 you guys have veterans that need help, reach out to our
19 organization, OHD-VETS. That is the phone number
20 (844) OHD-VETS. You can reach out to us.

21 Also, that number is for veterans having
22 troubles. Instead of calling the suicide prevention
23 hotline, which sometimes has taken forty-five minutes to
24 get through, and there has been confirmed thousands of
25 suicides happen on the suicide hotline, they can call

1 that number, 1 (844) OHD-VETS, and it will transfer to
2 several veterans' phones all at the same exact time here
3 locally, and one of us will answer it and start working
4 with you. And it is another one of our things we set
5 up. There is a lot of things we have going on.

6 I do want to mention that next Saturday, if you
7 want to ride, we are going to be presenting a house to
8 that double amputee veteran. He is twenty-three years
9 old. Come out here to Hanford and -- and stage up. We
10 are going to do that.

11 And then on May 2nd we are going to be
12 escorting a World War II POW, a Korean vet. Five
13 generations of veterans, we are going to be escorting
14 them to an event Saturday in Lemoore at
15 3:00 o'clock p.m.; so -- there at the fleet reserve. So
16 if you are there at the Lemoore at the fleet reserve,
17 3:00 o'clock p.m. as well, if you want to ride there.
18 We have got a great dinner planned that night.

19 So thank you, everybody. You guys have
20 a blessed day.

21 (Applause.)

22 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

23 Justin -- and, like I said, segues across America. They
24 started at San Francisco to Jacksonville, Florida. It
25 was a long trip, and they raised quite a bit of money to

1 help the program and other programs.

2 They have got another one that is going to be
3 coming up. They are going to be doing the zone chair.
4 It is a little shorter route this time. They are going
5 to start at northern California, trickle down through
6 California over a period of time, end up at Padre
7 stadium, who supports our veterans a lot. And we're
8 going to do some fundraising that way as well.

9 What Justin didn't say is it takes about \$1200
10 to run one vet through this program and come out
11 successful. And to this point he has a 100 percent
12 success rate. These guys are coming off the suicide
13 watch. Our veterans are living because of this program.

14 Given that, I would like to make a motion that
15 the American Legion Riders Department of California
16 sponsor one vet for that program, \$1200.

17 ALR DOC DELEGATE LABRADA: I'll second that
18 motion.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
20 the floor that was seconded by Ed LaBrada.

21 Any discussion?

22 Sir --

23 ALR DOC DELEGATE LABRADA: Mr. President,
24 I would like to make that two vets -- make that three
25 vets.

1 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Maybe four.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Well, right now we
4 have to -- we are working on one because we have one --
5 Take a seat, please.

6 We have a motion on the floor for one. I keep
7 looking -- I'm going to look this way because I can look
8 at my finance officer for yes/no. We have the money/we
9 don't have the money.

10 Yes?

11 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Well, it just
12 depends on if you are still wanting to give 10,000 to
13 VA&R. And then we have another issue that Jake wants to
14 bring up some money still. I mean, we can do it, but we
15 just won't be able to give as much to VA&R this year.

16 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: We'll
17 just leave it at one.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We'll just leave it
19 at one.

20 Any discussion? If you have any discussion,
21 please approach the podium.

22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE RUIZ: Ray Ruiz,
23 Chapter 328.

24 And Chapter 328 would like to challenge every
25 chapter here to sponsor a vet for the 1200 bucks.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Well, sir.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE RUIZ: Sorry.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Hang on. We do have
4 to finish the vote on this first.

5 Do you have discussion for that?

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE RUIZ: No.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay.

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE RUIZ: I just want
9 to make the challenge.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Oh, of course. Of
11 course.

12 Do you think I'm going to tell you no?

13 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Not today.

14 Personal point of privilege. As someone who
15 has lost a son-in-law, I'd like to take some of the
16 money that you are donating to my VA&R and donate it to
17 him so that you guys can fund two of your veterans.

18 (Applause.)

19 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: I'll
20 amend that motion. Given that, I'll amend my motion
21 that the American Legion Riders Department of California
22 sponsor two.

23 ALR DOC DELEGATE LABRADA: I'll second.

24 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Does
25 the second hold?

1 ALR DOC DELEGATE LABRADA: The second holds.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Any further
3 discussion?

4 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Call for the
5 question.

6 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Before I walk
7 really far, I'll just remind you all that sending five
8 is \$6,000. There are more than 2,000 members. Go back
9 to your chapter, ask everybody for three bucks, put it
10 together, and send it. If we put it all together, we
11 can do this, and we can do it in less than a month.

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Amen.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So we'll bring up
14 the challenge idea in just a moment. I like that.

15 There is a motion on the floor that has been
16 seconded and discussed and the question has been called.

17 All in favor signify by saying aye.

18 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

20 (No response.)

21 AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

22 PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion carries.

23 (Applause.)

24 OUR HEROES DREAMS PRESIDENT BOND: Thank you,
25 guys. You guys are awesome. And your pledges are

1 greatly appreciated too.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: See the guy in the
3 glasses for the check.

4 Have a seat.

5 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: And
6 I will take you up on that challenge.

7 (Processional.)

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I hope you picked up
9 the check before you left.

10 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: I know where he
11 lives.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The check is in the
13 mail.

14 Okay. All right. Mr. Ruiz; right?

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE RUIZ: Yes.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please approach the
17 mike.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE RUIZ: Yes.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now bring up your
20 idea.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 328 DELEGATE RUIZ: Okay.
22 Chapter 328 would like to challenge every chapter here
23 to donate \$1200 to sponsor an event for this great
24 cause.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The gauntlet has

1 been thrown down. Just like Smokey over here said, go
2 back to your chapters. You know how to contact the
3 young man. If you need to, you can work through with
4 J.D., and we'll make sure we get some vets helped. And
5 again, that's what we do.

6 (Applause.)

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: They should also
8 report that to our posts.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. And Steve
10 just pointed it out to me when you do that -- and I'm
11 not saying if. When you do that, make sure and report
12 that through your consolidated post reports so it gets
13 back up to report it to her and so she reports it to
14 national that we are doing great work for the
15 American Legion.

16 (Applause.)

17

18 RECESS TO AREA CAUCUS/ELECTIONS

19

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. To move
21 on. We are way behind schedule; so if you'll bear with
22 me, we are supposed to be reconvening now, according to
23 our sheet of paper, so we can go over the caucus
24 results; so we're going to go into caucus now. The time
25 that you are going to be due back is at 1600.

1 4:00 o'clock. 4:00 o'clock. It gives you an hour and
2 a half to get in there. We are going to -- during the
3 area caucus --

4 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO: Where are
5 they going to go?

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. I know. I'm
7 getting there.

8 In the area caucus you are going to discuss
9 about committees. As you well know, as you found out
10 today, committees are exceptionally important --
11 Uniform Committee -- Bylaws, Credentials, Resolutions,
12 Rally and Convention, Public Relations, Constitution and
13 Bylaws, Membership, Community Service, Safety, Uniform,
14 Quartermaster, and so on. If you want to make
15 a difference in this organization, get involved in those
16 committees. If you just want to go along with the
17 status quo, don't volunteer. If you want to make
18 a change, get involved. And it is not more -- it is
19 more than just us up here and some of you guys out
20 there. Let's do some good, like we just did.

21 We stand in recess.

22 Oh, as you were.

23 J.D., where is everybody meeting? The caucus.

24 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Most of
25 the Area Vice Presidents have found their rooms.

1 Area 3, I know we're meeting in room two right
2 back here.

3 Area 5 is in the lunchroom over there.

4 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: Where
5 is two?

6 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Area 6 was
7 in the DEC room.

8 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: We
9 moved it, didn't we?

10 ALR DOC DELEGATE LABRADA: The note was still
11 on the door.

12 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Yeah.
13 Each one of the doors -- actually, right out there on
14 the sign, right across from the Liberty ballroom door
15 says which area is going to which room. Independence
16 room is split up into two, Area 6.

17 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: All the
18 way up.

19 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Area 6
20 is in Independence A, on the other side.

21 Area 2, I believe -- is right here in
22 Independence B, I believe.

23 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: Where
24 did you put me, Fresno?

25 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Oh,

1 yeah, Bob.

2 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: We'll
3 be in the parking lot. Area 1, parking lot.

4 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: I'll
5 have each one of the Area VPs check where they are at.
6 Right outside of the door talks about which -- where
7 each area is at because each area has its own room.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So in other words,
9 check the board. Okay? Check the board.

10 I'm going to give you until 1615. 1615, 4:15
11 for those of you who are not military time.

12 We stand adjourned. Or correction. We stand
13 in recess.

14

15 RECESS

16

17 (Short recess taken from
18 2:40 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.)

19

20 RECONVENE

21

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sergeant-at-Arms,
23 secure the door.

24 We're back in session.

25 Well, I hope everything went as well as can be

1 during your area caucus. I know one was pretty fiery
2 that I walked into, but that is all good. Fiery is
3 good. Disrespect is not.

4

5

VESTS

6

7

AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

8

PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. Just as an interesting

9

side note, how many of you went downtown to eat? Just

10

raise -- show your hands.

11

AUDIENCE MEMBER: For lunch?

12

ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: For lunch -- for

13

lunch today, how many of you went downtown?

14

Did -- any of you were told by a staff member

15

of down there to take your vest off?

16

AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

17

ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes? Because it got

18

reported back to me --

19

AUDIENCE MEMBER: That was last night.

20

ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- that they are not

21

allowing people with vests into some of the businesses

22

around here.

23

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Where -- where is that going?

24

Where are we going?

25

ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So with that said,

1 I -- J.D. is looking into it. And don't be
2 disrespectful. Just -- it is their business. If they
3 choose to take us off -- or ask you to take it off, it
4 doesn't mean --

5 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA:

6 Mr. President, I believe it was the police department
7 that called these establishments saying that they would
8 close them down if they allowed anyone coming into their
9 business wearing the vest.

10 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: They
11 may have it -- they may have it in their codes.

12 ALR DOC JUNIOR PAST PRESIDENT VILLA: That's
13 what I heard.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So the comment that
15 was made by Poncho was that the PD allegedly -- and
16 I will use that word loosely -- allegedly called these
17 businesses and told them not to serve people in vests.
18 And so, therefore, J.D., again, is still looking into
19 that. If they have a no colors policy, then that is
20 their right to do so. Okay?

21 It doesn't make it right, but -- for us, as far
22 as we are concerned, but remember, we also gave them
23 that right to -- to do so. We fought for that right,
24 right or wrong.

25 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Or the right to

1 walk out.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay?

3 And we also have the right to walk out of that
4 business and not support it.

5 Okay?

6 (Applause.)

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All I know is that
8 after dinner tonight -- or correction. I'm going to be
9 right over there. I'm not going to be downtown; so take
10 that for what it is worth.

11 Speaking of which, the -- we're going to run
12 late, as you can tell, because we are already late.
13 Happy hour is going to be from 5:00 to 6:00, dinner from
14 6:00 until 7:00. The band is starts playing at 7:00; so
15 that's -- I'll make that announcement.

16 J.D., are there any -- is there anything else
17 to announce?

18 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Your
19 vests are welcome at our event.

20 (Applause.)

21

22 REPORT OF AREA ELECTIONS

23

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: There you go.

25 All right. So what we are going to do right

1 now is we're going to have our committee reports and
2 we're -- the report -- I'm sorry. The report of area
3 elections, then followed by the committee reports, which
4 includes quite a few. And so one of the biggest ones
5 that we have will be resolutions and -- at which time
6 I will address that.

7 Let's start with Area 1 for the elections --
8 or -- yeah. Area 1 elections.

9 Now, when -- if you nominated -- or if you were
10 elected or nominated for a position within one of the
11 committees, be prepared to be chair of that committee.
12 And I will ask you before, you know, hey, do you want to
13 be the chair? I will just look over and get a name, and
14 then we'll just go on down that line. And then you will
15 be responsible for -- as the chair to stay in contact
16 with the committee members throughout the year. All
17 right?

18 Let's go with Area 1.

19 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: Do
20 I read the whole committee?

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes.

22

23 AREA 1 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

24

25 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: All

1 right. Area 1, I want to thank everybody in Area 1 for
2 their volunteerism.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Yeah.

4 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN:
5 Everybody in there stepped up. We got a full house.
6 Okay?

7 For Area 1 VP Bob Perryman was elected.

8 (Applause.)

9 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN:
10 Alternate VP, Mike Ross was elected.

11 For our Constitution and Bylaws we have two
12 people, Kevin Phelps --

13 I guess I should give the chapter numbers. 521
14 for Bob Perryman. 119 -- 119 for Mike Ross.

15 For Constitution and Bylaws we have
16 Kevin Phelps, Chapter 77; Tim Magenti, Chapter 521.
17 Both of them could not wait.

18 For the Convention City we have a returning all
19 star, the Mayor of Brea Linda, David Adams, Chapter --
20 or David Adams, Chapter 521.

21 Credentials Committee, we have Daniel Neubauer,
22 Chapter 77.

23 Finance Committee, we have two volunteers
24 there: Ken Farmer, Chapter 130; Judy Muetz,
25 Chapter 119.

1 Membership: Mike Sombrano, Chapter 521.

2 Trial Board: Steve Bowne.

3 I'm having trouble with that name, Steve. I'm
4 sorry.

5 Steve Bowne, Chapter 111; David George,
6 Chapter 111; Steven Culp, Chapter 77. Oh, and his
7 girlfriend didn't know it until just now.

8 Sorry, April.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 84 DELEGATE GEORGE:

10 David George, 84.

11 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: I'm
12 sorry. David George, 84.

13 Dave -- they moved you, Dave.

14 All right. 84. Thank you, brother. All
15 right. David George, 84, on the trial board.

16 Resolutions: Mike Muetz, Chapter 119;
17 Ed LaBrada, District 5.

18 Organization and Rules: Joe Rendon,
19 Chapter 119; Matt Ellis, Chapter 383.

20 Safety: Mike Ross, Chapter 119. Excuse me.

21 Public Relations: Charlie Patterson,
22 Chapter 521; and Steve Bowne, Chapter 111. We have
23 multiple volunteers here.

24 Uniforms: Ted Mar, Chapter 77; Albert Gaede,
25 Chapter 521.

1 Awards Recognition: Uncle Miltie Bandera,
2 Chapter 119.

3 One thing I will -- I'd like to -- while I am
4 up here I'll address. Anyone going to Sturgis this
5 year? I am also -- I go every two or three years. Your
6 vests are not welcome in any bar in Sturgis. Okay?
7 Remember that, no colors in Sturgis; so don't go there
8 and get thrown out and be pissed. It is just the way it
9 is, guys.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. Thanks, Bob,
11 and thanks for all of the volunteers.

12 Oh, as a special side note, I was asked to give
13 a special thanks to a young man that is working around
14 here. His name is Will. I don't see him in here. He
15 is the guy that opens everything up and gets you
16 something if you need it right quickly; so if you see
17 a guy -- I think he has got a green shirt on. I believe
18 so. Give him a pat on the back and tell him thanks, buy
19 him a beer later, if you want.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 2.

22

23 AREA 2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

24

25 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: Thank

1 you, Mr. President. I will be glad to report the
2 results of the Area 2 caucus.

3 I have been volunteered for Area 2 VP for
4 another year. I am from Chapter 31.

5 As an alternate or Assistant VP,
6 Mr. George Smith from Chapter 82.

7 In the Constitution and Bylaws, Mr. Hy Libby
8 from Chapter 31.

9 And the Convention City, Daniel "Dano" Freeman
10 from District 10.

11 In the Credentials Committee, Ms. Anna Halstead
12 for District 28.

13 In the Finance Committee, Jennifer Diaz,
14 District 10.

15 In the Membership Committee, Mr. Fred Branson
16 for District 9, Rolling 9s.

17 In the Trial Board Committee -- I'm sorry.
18 Trial Board Membership -- and it looks like we have
19 three. Wait a minute. I want to make sure. Trial
20 Board. That is correct. Mr. Brian LaPore for
21 Chapter 69, Hollister; Mr. Ray Friend, Chapter 69, also
22 Hollister; Mr. Warren Halstead, District 28.

23 We have Public Relations, two volunteers:
24 Ms. Janet Wagner from Chapter 694, Marino. We have
25 Mr. Frank Rehm from Chapter 202.

1 We have Uniform Committee -- interesting
2 enough, we elected the Quartermaster, Mr. Patrick
3 Tafoya, from District 9 to represent Area 2 in the
4 Uniform Committee.

5 We have the Awards and Recognition Committee,
6 Mr. Sean "Iceman" Ramsey from District 28.

7 For the Safety Committee we have
8 Mr. Mike "Scout" Nettles from District 10. We have
9 Mr. Steve "Pops" Culver, Chapter 31.

10 For our Organization and Rules, Mr. Frank Rehm
11 from Chapter 202.

12 And for Resolutions, Mr. Peter "Three-peat"
13 Calvert, District 28.

14 That is my report, Mr. President.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

16 He's got you covered. Thank you.

17 ALR DOC AREA 2 VICE PRESIDENT ALVAREZ: Thank
18 you.

19

20 AREA 3 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

21

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 3, Mr. Bennett.

23 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Area 3.

24 First of all, anybody in Area 3 ride a Triumph?

25 Do those look familiar? I'll get them to you.

1 Okay. Area 3 -- Area 3 Vice President,
2 J.D. Bennett.

3 Alternate VP: Robert Stover.

4 Constitution and Bylaws -- let me start over.

5 J.D. Bennett, Chapter 509.

6 Robert Stover, Chapter 3.

7 Vince Cole: Constitution and Bylaws,
8 Chapter 83.

9 Convention City: Marc Mathes, Chapter 3.

10 Credentials Committee: Keith Early,
11 Chapter 872.

12 Finance Committee: Thom Miller.

13 Thom, if you are on the floor, what chapter?

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 509 DELEGATE MILLER: 509.

15 ALR DOC AREA 1 VICE PRESIDENT PERRYMAN: That
16 was embarrassing.

17 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:

18 I wasn't even going to say anything. Thanks, Buddy.

19 Okay. Now you just paid me back for not getting your
20 door unlocked. Thank you.

21 Membership: Raymond Fox, Chapter 83.

22 Trial Board Members: Vince Cole, 83;

23 Mike Smith, Chapter 20; Andy Berard, Chapter 3.

24 Uniform Committee: Stephanie Early, 872.

25 Public Relations: J.D. Bennett, Chapter 509.

1 Awards and Recognitions stayed the same because
2 they didn't write down the name.

3 Organization and Rules: Smokey, Robert Stover.

4 And Safety Committee: John Carter, Post 23;

5 Pat O'Brian, Chapter 3; Marc Mathes, Chapter 3.

6 Area 3. Thank you.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Thank you.

8

9 AREA 5 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

10

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. Area 5,

12 Mick Sobczak.

13 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK:

14 Progress.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Progress as always.

16 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Who

17 rides a Triumph? So do I.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

19 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I'm not

20 alone -- I'm not alone by myself anymore.

21 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Where is your

22 keys?

23 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: All

24 right. Area 5 reports.

25 I will be returning for another year as the

1 Area 5 Vice President, Mick Sobczak.

2 Area 5 gets three Assistant Area VPs, and we
3 have Paul Patricio from Chapter 255; Jim Sewell from the
4 triple nickel, 555; and Mark Tansey from 262.

5 Constitution and Bylaws, we have Harry Johnson
6 from Chapter 852.

7 Convention and Rally, we have Jim Sewell from
8 Chapter 555.

9 For the Credentials Committee we have
10 Cyndy Simmons from Chapter 365.

11 Finance Committee will be Leonard Phillips from
12 Chapter 852.

13 Membership: Brendan Gradert from Chapter 201.

14 Trial Board Membership, three of them -- and
15 I hope you guys don't get that busy this year --
16 Jaime Gonzalez from Chapter 262, Kimberly Southwell from
17 Chapter 416, and Yvonne Zweifel from Chapter 555.

18 Safety, we have Gary Teicher from Chapter 852,
19 with an alternate of Pete Provencio from Chapter 434.

20 Public Relations: Patrick Gradert from
21 Chapter 201.

22 Uniform Committee: Sonny Stowers from
23 Chapter 852.

24 Awards and Recognition: Paul Broadbent from
25 Chapter 255.

1 And Organization and Rules: Ken Derr,
2 Chapter 146.

3 I'll get you those. That's the end of my
4 report.

5 Thank you.

6

7

AREA 6 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

8

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Area 6, Dan Dale.

10 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Area 6
11 officers.

12 I resigned my position as the Area 6
13 Vice President. Elected is Don Marriott from
14 Chapter 66.

15 With Alternate Vice Presidents -- Brad Ring,
16 Chapter 48; Fred Johnson, 311; and Don Christolear, 432
17 as Alternate VPs.

18 Constitution and Bylaws: Robert Bowman.

19 Convention City: Bruce Simoneau.

20 Credentials: Don Marriott.

21 Finance Committee: Rosemary Weber.

22 Oooh, I'm sorry. I forgot to put down chapters
23 next to each one.

24 Do you want me to back up?

25 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: No. That's okay.

1 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Okay.

2 Rosemary Weber was Chapter 48.

3 Chuck Hamby, Chapter 211; Jim Banakus, 534, for
4 Trial Board.

5 Resolutions: Richard Segovia, Chapter 66.

6 Uniform: Robert Wathen, Chapter 136.

7 Safety: Ronnie Womble, Chapter 48.

8 Public Relations: David Medzyk, Chapter 66.

9 Awards and Recognitions: Larry Hale,
10 Chapter 211.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

12 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Thank you.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. Now,
14 with that said, let's see. Where was the -- I need one
15 of the sheets.

16 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You don't have to do
17 that now.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. Do it later?

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Yeah.

20

21 COMMITTEE REPORTS

22

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We're going to go
24 straight into committee reports, and we're going to
25 start off with our Vice President Chris Coleman.

1

2 VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

3

4

ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: Good

5

afternoon. First thing I want to say to all of you is

6

thank you for coming.

7

Two, thank you for that vote this morning.

8

And the third is to give these guys a hand

9

because they have worked all year long for you. That is

10

what they do.

11

(Applause.)

12

ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: You know me.

13

I arrive, and I am not broke down. Or I'll show up in

14

my truck or my car, whatever, and I try to come out to

15

all of the events as much as possible. And in that

16

a couple things that I want to put out, things I would

17

like to see done better this year.

18

Our National Commander, when he comes or she

19

comes, I'd like to see stronger support in the Riders.

20

I know a lot of you did, but I know we could have done

21

a lot better in some areas.

22

Communications with your VPs, Chapter

23

Presidents, Chapter Vice Presidents, you guys should be

24

given a list of your name, phone number, and if you have

25

an e-mail address, your e-mail. Give that to them.

1 Information needs to flow both ways. He definitely
2 needs to have those avenues. I have been in that
3 position. One guy, if his computer breaks down, the
4 chapter has no clue what goes on. Two people, I can't
5 see two computers breaking down. I know they are not
6 going to break down. Give that to them. Give that to
7 the guys that have been elected.

8 And getting back to basics, a lot of you do
9 this. I get the area reports that they send out of what
10 is going on. Getting out there and helping our
11 veterans. These are things that I definitely see that
12 we can do better.

13 And along that line is our recruitment. We
14 definitely recruit. We definitely recruit leaders
15 because all of us standing up here today and all of you
16 that has been elected to those positions, we all
17 volunteer. There is nobody, you know, telling us, hey,
18 you are going to get a paycheck today. We did this
19 because it is here, and we believe in what we do. These
20 are things I would like to see us do better next year,
21 and I know we can.

22 Other than that, I'm going to have, like, two
23 quick announcements to do a promo for my chapter. If
24 you are down there in our area, down in Oxnard, down in
25 southern Cal, come over on May 9th. We are doing our

1 seventh annual Poker run. And that is May 19th. I know
2 some of you -- 9th. Sorry. May 9th. I know some of
3 you have events that day too; so for those of you that
4 don't and are not going to those, go ahead and stop by.

5 Another one is we are having -- September 19th,
6 it is going to be after our rally, and that is the Sarah
7 ride. It is in honor of our President's daughter and
8 his son. It is a fund that we have raised over \$20,600,
9 and I think we are doing the -- yeah. Sixth annual this
10 year; so that goes to the Cancer Foundation; so please
11 come and support us on those.

12 I'm definitely honored to have been your
13 Vice President for this year, and I want to say I look
14 forward to hopefully doing it again.

15 Thank you.

16 That's my report.

17 (Applause.)

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. Chris alluded
19 to a ride that has been going on for some -- some years
20 now. For those of you that don't know -- I know the
21 guys around Area 6 know -- May 7th, 2009, I lost my
22 daughter to cancer. She was twenty-four. June 2nd,
23 2009, less than thirty days later, my son died in
24 a motorcycle wreck. My only son. So my son's birthday
25 was -- my son's birthday was September 18th; so around

1 that time frame we hold a ride to raise funds for the
2 American Cancer Society. And in that time frame we have
3 raised -- like Chris reported -- over \$20,600. And so
4 we are going to do it again this year, and if you can,
5 you -- please come out. Please come out and support.

6 And one of the reasons that I do it is not only
7 to honor their memory. It is to raise funds for the
8 American Cancer Society. Just by -- and I ask this
9 question every year, but I'll ask it here. By a show of
10 hands, how many people in this room have been affected
11 by cancer? Look around. That's why I do it.

12 Sarah had the most curable cancer, lymphoma.
13 It has a success rate of 90 percent. Sarah was born
14 with a little bump on her nose, and she -- you know, and
15 she went to get that removed. And the day before she
16 went in -- you know, they have to go in and do blood
17 work and such, that's when they found it, stage four.
18 Six months later she was gone. She fell into that
19 10 percent. I hate cancer.

20 But, ironically, a machine that helped take my
21 son's life brings me peace. I get on that thing and
22 I ride. I did -- some people know this. They followed
23 me when I was on a trip to Texas. It was in 2011, right
24 before the 2011 convention in Lompoc. I completed
25 3,620 miles on my own. On that ride I came back. My

1 motorcycle brings me peace. And how ironic is that?

2 Sorry. I didn't mean to go on about that, but
3 thank you, Chris. Thanks for -- and Chapter 48 and 211
4 for helping to put it on for so many years. Thank you,
5 guys. I really appreciate it.

6 So we go on. Let's talk about something really
7 fun, finance.

8 The money man, Don Christolear. I forgot to
9 introduce you, sir.

10

11

FINANCE REPORT

12

13 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: All righty.
14 I'm going to try to keep this short and sweet, just like
15 me.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sweet? I don't
17 know.

18 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: I'm looking for
19 a stepstool here.

20 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I'll
21 overlook that joke.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. Thank you.

23 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Let's start off
24 with our finance report for -- since last April 14th,
25 2014, to April 17th, 2015. We started off that period

1 with \$64,684.44, and we ended with \$65,342.11. That's
2 a net increase of \$657.67; so you can see we are not --
3 we are not making much money here.

4 So that is my -- my finance report.

5 Do we need to have that approved for this year?

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I'm willing to
7 entertain a motion to accept the Finance Officer's
8 report. If you would please approach one of the mikes.
9 Subject to audit, of course.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE BOSWELL:

11 Tim Boswell, Chapter 262, Fontana. Delegate to this
12 convention.

13 I'd like to -- thank you.

14 I'd like to make a motion to accept the Finance
15 report -- Officer's report as read.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Subject to audit.

17 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE BOSWELL: Subject
18 to audit.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We have a motion on
20 the floor.

21 Is there a second?

22 I need you to approach the mike. Don't hurt
23 yourself, Brad.

24 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: Brad Ring,
25 Chapter 48 President, delegate to this convention.

1 I second the motion.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. I have
3 a motion that has been made and seconded.

4 Is there any discussion?

5 (No discussion.)

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Being no discussion,
7 all in favor signify by saying aye.

8 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

10 (No response.)

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion carries.

12 Thank you, Don.

13 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Thank you.

14 New budget.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. And now he is
16 going to talk about the budget.

17 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Before I forget
18 about it, if there is a representative from 682, I need
19 to see you sometime later on this evening.

20 Bryan.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE TREUL: I would
22 like to make a motion in reference to your report, if
23 you would recognize me.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sure. Mr. Treul, go
25 ahead.

1 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE TREUL: Hi, my
2 name is Bryan Treul, President of Chapter 149.

3 The Riders group was formed in Fresno several
4 years ago. The American Legion Department of California
5 provided funds for the first -- for the Riders group's
6 first budget. What I would like to do is to repay
7 that -- those funds to the American Legion Department of
8 California as they move into their new facility. My
9 motion is to donate \$1500 to the new American Legion
10 Department of California headquarters in Sanger,
11 California.

12 I would entertain a second from someone.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We have a motion on
14 the floor.

15 Is there a second?

16 ALR DOC HISTORIAN JACOBSEN: Was that the
17 initial amount?

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE TREUL: Yes, it
19 was.

20 ALR DOC HISTORIAN JACOBSEN: Jake Jacobsen.

21 I second the motion.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We have a motion on
23 the floor that has been seconded by Jake Jacobsen.

24 Is there any discussion?

25 (No response.)

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Being no discussion,
2 all in favor of said motion signify by saying aye.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

5 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Opposed.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nay.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The motion carries.

8 Okay. Please go on, Don.

9 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Thank you.

10 And I do apologize. Normally in the mornings
11 I give a finance report, and I let you know that the
12 budget -- the proposed budget is hanging up outside.

13 Did anybody here have a chance to even notice
14 the budget that was hanging by the bylaws?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. What I can do
17 is -- the Finance Committee went over the proposed
18 budget, and they -- they agreed that everything looked
19 good.

20 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: I could read
21 down the items, if you like, and tell you what each line
22 item is for.

23 Okay?

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I see a lot of
25 left/rights.

1 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Right, I agree.

2 Thank you.

3 Okay. Well, bottom line, here is what we are
4 looking at. We are down this year. Our grand total of
5 income is -- excuse me -- \$20,161.98. That's down from
6 \$22,034.06 from last year. Just -- just so that you
7 guys kind of know where our money comes from and just
8 what the Quartermaster gives to us, in 2012/2013 they
9 gave you \$12,500; 2013/14, \$9,250.06; this year
10 \$5,116.98. And, obviously, we have all -- but just they
11 are a big contributor to what we actually end up giving;
12 so that is a big part why our funds are down.

13 We also had another -- we are getting E & O
14 insurance that is \$1500 that -- and on our -- our end,
15 we are going to be able to give \$8,667.98 towards
16 donations this next year. That is down from \$12,264.06
17 from last year; so basically, that is what we have. We
18 ended up with 20,161.98, that is what we have coming in.
19 Everything balances.

20 So we will entertain a motion to --

21 Well, we were talking about convention delegate
22 fees and the money that you guys spend towards delegate
23 fees and putting on this convention. And that is --
24 every penny is needed; so that is -- if you are
25 wondering, where your \$10 goes, it is to put this whole

1 thing on, you know. Okay?

2 So are there any questions about delegate fees
3 or --

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Budget.

5 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: As far as,
6 actually, about the budget in general, any -- the
7 numbers, do you have any questions about it? You want
8 to -- well --

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thanks, Don.

10 All right. Now we are going to go on to -- oh,
11 we do have to vote on the budget? My bad.

12 It is on. It is on, Joe.

13 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE LOVE: Do you need
14 a motion to pass that?

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes, sir.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE LOVE: I would like
17 to make a motion to pass that. Finance, I was there for
18 five years, and it is a lot of work. And I'll tell you
19 what, it is a lot of money. And as long as you guys are
20 spending money and not keeping money, we are doing
21 a good job.

22 And my motion is to pass the budget.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
24 the floor.

25 Is there a second?

1 ALR DOC SAFETY OFFICER MATHES: Second.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: You have to approach
3 the mike.

4 ALR DOC SAFETY OFFICER MATHES: Marc Mathes,
5 Chapter 3.

6 I second the motion.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
8 the floor that has been seconded.

9 Is there any discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Being no discussion,
12 all in favor of said motion signify by saying aye.

13 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

15 (No response.)

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion carries.

17 And I was just kicked in the shin over here by
18 Steve that Joe Love was the Treasurer -- the
19 Finance Officer for this organization from the
20 inception; correct?

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Close.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Close. Pretty
23 close.

24 Joe, how long did you serve?

25 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Tony Fettig may

1 have --

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Tony was first --

3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Yeah.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- and then --

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Joe.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- it went to Joe.

7 About four or five years, which, by the way, let me do

8 this really quick as a point of personal privilege.

9 If you were on the Ad Hoc Committee, please

10 stand. If you were on the Ad Hoc Committee, please

11 stand.

12 (Applause.)

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: There you go. And

14 I know that Wayne Koloski, who is not here, and I do not

15 see Terry Boughman, but they were also part of the

16 ad hoc. These guys worked very hard to get us where we

17 are today. They got us started; so thank you gentlemen.

18 I appreciate that.

19 So let's go on to Resolutions Committee. But,

20 actually, we will go to that in a little bit later

21 because I'm going to have the Resolutions Committee

22 during the introduction of Resolutions Committee.

23 Convention and Rally. Terry is not here.

24 Credentials Committee. No report?

25 Public Relations. Marc, is that you or were

1 you just getting up?

2 All right. No report.

3

4 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

5

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Constitution and
7 Bylaws.

8 ALR DOC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

9 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: That's me.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: That would be you.

11 ALR DOC CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNSON: That would be me, Harry Johnson,
13 Constitution and Bylaws, Chapter 852.

14 I gave a report earlier today. I have nothing
15 to add to that.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you, sir.

17 Membership. No report.

18

19 COMMUNITY SERVICE/SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

20

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Community

22 Service/Safety. Marc Mathes.

23 ALR DOC SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MATHES: For

24 motorcycle safety, I mean, nothing ruins a ride more

25 than going out in the morning and not bringing everybody

1 back from that ride, whether it was the bike that broke
2 down or somebody actually got hurt. It makes for
3 a really bad day.

4 All of the Area VPs have a group riding course,
5 which is available to any of the chapters through your
6 Area VPs. We have other courses that are also
7 available, Street Smarts. For us younger folks there
8 was one called the Seasoned Rider Program. I know
9 John Carter --

10 Where are you at, John?

11 ALR DOC DELEGATE CARTER: Right behind you.

12 ALR DOC SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MATHES:

13 Right behind me. He is still teaching out there on the
14 base. The courses are available. We are talking -- one
15 of the things we talked about in our chapter would be,
16 you know, come in with a new motorcycle course that you
17 have completed, maybe worked that course, we'll pay your
18 dues for you for that year.

19 But the bottom line is motorcycle safety is
20 extremely important in what we are doing and is part of
21 our bylaws, and we need to come up with ways to, you
22 know, actively promote the motorcycle safety program.
23 I know all of the active duty folks have the motorcycle
24 courses that are available on all of the bases. And
25 they just started off the We Park program within the

1 state of California. Those programs are becoming more
2 available as they trade up for new coaches.

3 And I say get your people out there, find ways
4 to do the classes. And even if you guys have been
5 riding forty or fifty years, I guarantee that if you go
6 through a basic rider class, you are going to reinstill
7 some of those skills that maybe -- maybe your bad habits
8 have caused you to forget; so jump on there and get on
9 it.

10 With that, I saw the list of names for the new
11 safety representatives for the area, and I look forward
12 to a really great year.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15

16 UNIFORM/QUARTERMASTER REPORT

17

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: On here it says
19 Uniform, slash, Quartermaster Patrick Tafoya.

20

21 UNIFORM/QUARTERMASTER REPORT

22

23 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Great.

24 Greetings, everyone.

25 I know a lot of you don't -- some of you don't

1 know, but we do have a smaller patch that we sell. This
2 is it. Some people asked about it, but we have a lot of
3 these that are -- it is for smaller-framed bodies, if
4 you wanted a smaller patch. This one just to be an
5 Auxiliary patch, but I wanted to make sure that all of
6 the delegates take it back to their membership that
7 there is a smaller patch that can go on the back of the
8 vest, and we have those. They are on -- actually on the
9 order form where you see small -- smaller patch.

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Is that what that is?

11 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: That is what
12 that one is.

13 Okay. What I did is I did a report for all of
14 2014. And I didn't do it from convention to convention,
15 and I will correct that in the future. In 2014 we
16 sold -- we processed one hundred orders; so we had one
17 hundred orders coming in in 2014. Of that one hundred
18 orders, we had 429 patch sets ordered. With that, we
19 had -- the breakdown for that was two hundred fifty were
20 veteran patches, one hundred were squadron patches,
21 seventy were Auxiliary patches, and eleven were the
22 small patch. Some of the veterans and the -- some of
23 the top flairs were sold extra because of people
24 changing chapters; so the top -- top flairs was four
25 hundred one total top flairs sold.

1 I brought to convention last year that we --
2 that emblem sales had decided that we no longer could
3 sell -- or could purchase in bulk. We were purchasing
4 in bulk at a lower price from the catalog. We weren't
5 even on -- in the catalog because as we had a custom --
6 it was called special orders. They have changed that.
7 They changed that last year, and I brought it to
8 convention. And they raised the price that we got them
9 for by -- to the catalog price of \$30.

10 That being said, we made it the whole year last
11 year with the patches that I had. We have had to raise
12 the price of this -- of this patch, the larger patch, to
13 \$85 beginning May 1st; so if you have orders coming in,
14 I have -- I have a small amount. I think I have
15 probably about -- I think it was twenty-four patches
16 left that we were get -- we went from paying \$13 buying
17 three hundred of them to 32.95 per patch; so that is
18 how -- you know, that is how it went up by approximately
19 \$20.

20 And we can only buy them from Emblem Sales
21 because I did ask if we could bid it out, and they said
22 because they sell it, we can't -- we can't have it
23 produced by a local vendor or anything like that.

24 Also, on the report -- so last year -- sorry.
25 Darn it.

1 So last year we sent the DEC 7,000 -- this is
2 in 2014. We sent the DEC \$7,180.80. That was the DEC's
3 portion. District 9 for administrating the
4 processing -- processing the patches and doing that
5 stuff they got \$3,699.20. We're going to discuss that
6 again at a later DEC meeting, but at this point, this
7 patch, we have a lot of them; so I don't think we are
8 going to -- there won't be a price increase in these
9 because we probably have two hundred of them; so if you
10 order smaller ones, they will probably still be at 65 --
11 they will be at 65, but the larger patch for the newer
12 members are going to be -- excuse me?

13 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Only in the
14 Auxiliary?

15 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Only the
16 small -- the small patch or the small center. The
17 larger patch, obviously we don't have -- we are going to
18 run out; so I have to buy them from Emblem Sales at
19 catalog price. And they would not budge for bulk
20 purchases, nothing. They said that since the other
21 departments in the country pay that price, there is --
22 they are not going to give us a break.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: So instead
24 of the usual 65, it is jacked up another 20 to make it
25 85?

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes. Yes, sir.

2 Yes, sir.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: It is going
4 to be a hard sale.

5 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: It is. If we
6 sell them for 65, they are -- we are going to lose -- we
7 are losing money completely, I mean, because the top
8 flair and the bottom flair are 15 each, and then the
9 center.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: No.
11 I know -- I hear what you are saying. I hear what you
12 are saying.

13 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: I just -- I just
14 wanted to bring that. I struggled all year. We made it
15 another year without raising them, but at this point
16 we're at --

17 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Which is how
18 many years in a row, Patrick?

19 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Huh?

20 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: How many years
21 have they been 65?

22 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: So they have
23 been 65 since the Quartermaster started, and so since
24 2007 they have been \$65; so with everything else, they
25 didn't go up.

1 Yes, sir.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE BOSWELL:

3 Tim Boswell, 262.

4 You had mentioned that the center patch because
5 you have to buy that from Emblem Sales.

6 What about the flairs? Can that be bid out or
7 does it have to be got from Emblem Sales also?

8 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: No. No. But at
9 \$15 apiece we had found that worked really well.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And it is uniform.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: We can get those
12 local.

13 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: I get these
14 local. And they -- with that, they sew -- they actually
15 sew them on and process, do all of that for us as a --
16 for a fee, I guess. I mean, it is all included in the
17 process. It doesn't look good.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I'd like to ask a question.

19 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Yes, sir.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Is there a motion on the
21 floor to raise the price?

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
23 the floor to raise the price \$20.

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Whatever it takes to get the
25 job done.

1 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: 85.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We have had this since 2007
3 at \$65, the cost should go up.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So to raise the
5 price to \$85 from 65, there is a motion on the floor.

6 Is there a second?

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL:

8 Jim Sewell, Chapter 555, delegate to the convention.

9 I'll second the motion.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion on the floor.

11 It has been seconded.

12 Discussion?

13 If you have to -- if you want to discuss it,
14 please approach the podium.

15 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN:

16 Dan Freeman, District 10, delegate to this convention.

17 Why do we need to have a motion for the
18 Quartermaster to raise the increase?

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Because it is an
20 operating cost, and this body decides whether -- whether
21 or not we raise prices.

22 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN: So it is
23 a line item in the budget for the Quartermaster price?

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No.

25 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is not

1 necessary. It is fine.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Pardon?

3 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is not
4 necessary.

5 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN: Does the
6 Quartermaster have control of it?

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is not
8 necessary because it is an administrative function. If
9 the body wants us to vote on that issue and ratify it,
10 that is fine.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. It is not
12 necessary to have a motion for that, so I am being told,
13 because it is an operating fund, but if you guys want to
14 vote on it, we can.

15 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: It is with their
16 approval.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: It is with your
18 approval, of course.

19 Sir.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 82 DELEGATE SMITH:
21 George Smith, Chapter 82, San Mateo, President and
22 delegate of this convention.

23 I have a question for the Quartermaster, and my
24 question is you say that -- that we are obligated to
25 purchase the center patch from this manufacturer? No?

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No. It is from our
2 Emblem Sales.

3 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Flag and Emblem
4 Sales.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Flag and Emblem
6 Sales, the national.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 82 DELEGATE SMITH: As a part
8 of the American Legion?

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 82 DELEGATE SMITH: Okay.
11 Thank you.

12 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: And all those profits
13 go to the veterans.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And the profits from
15 that do go to veterans programs that the Legion funds.

16 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Call for the
17 question.

18 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Any further
19 discussion?

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Any further
21 discussion?

22 Oh, Joe.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE LOVE: We can have
24 an account that locks in the price that we are going to
25 be charged, and then the price goes up again, we'll come

1 in again, and that way we don't -- we don't have to
2 worry about somewhere down the line he is saying, okay.
3 Last year I lost a little bit of money because they
4 raised the price a little bit more. Let's lock it in
5 for some years, and if it has got to go up, it's got to
6 go up and we vote on it, you know. You guys can control
7 your moneys that way.

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is not
9 required.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 69 DELEGATE LOVE: Thank you.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Stephanie.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY:

13 Stephanie Early, Chapter 872.

14 Is there a way that we can check with other
15 departments -- with other state departments to see if
16 they have a contract with Emblem Sales to have it -- to
17 have them made through another contractor, and if we can
18 purchase them from that state at a cheaper price?

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I know for a fact
20 that -- because I was kept in the loop on this that he
21 tried on many occasions, even got Bill --

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Siler.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- Siler involved,
24 and this went all the way to national, and we were shot
25 down; so -- but as far as your question is concerned,

1 I think that could --

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY: But if
3 another state already has permission from Emblem Sales
4 to have an outsource -- outside source make the patches.

5 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: That's an
6 individual --

7 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Emblem Sales is
8 the only ones that sell that patch, and because it is
9 a catalog item, they will be the only ones that -- to
10 sell it.

11 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Personal point of
12 privilege.

13 What I was trying to tell Stephanie was they --
14 other states may have a surplus of them when -- when we
15 were buying them in surplus, and they are stuck with
16 them. We might negotiate some of their stock that is
17 sitting there, and it is a win/win situation.

18 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Then it has to
19 be amended because --

20 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Ours has
21 California on the patch.

22 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: You add the
23 flairs on later.

24 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: No. The
25 patches -- the actual patch, the centers patch that we

1 purchase from Emblem Sales has California embroidered on
2 them.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON:
4 Harry Johnson, 852, delegate to this convention.

5 Can you provide some clarity on the
6 administrative costs and where that goes to and what the
7 profit margin is on the sale of the patch?

8 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Okay. So the
9 DEC receives 66 percent, and it goes to the -- to the
10 funds of whatever the DEC -- the budget part of the DEC.
11 The 34 percent goes to District 9 to perform their
12 veteran opportunities. I mean, however you --
13 programs -- veterans programs are also.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: District 9
15 processes --

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: But they also
17 process the orders.

18 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: We process the
19 orders, and it gets distributed that way.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: How is
21 the processing done? I mean, if -- when I was receiving
22 the patches, they came strictly -- straight from the
23 manufacturer.

24 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Right.

25 Okay. Go ahead. So I put --

1 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: So when
2 I -- when I submitted the order, I submitted the order
3 to the Quartermaster, and I was under the impression
4 that the Quartermaster simply forwarded that to the
5 embroidery company, and the embroidery company sent the
6 patches to us; so I don't quite understand why a third
7 of the profit goes to District 9.

8 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Because we are
9 the administrators of the patches; so I provide them --
10 I work the process with the embroidery company.

11 I process all of the patches to them. For the fee of --
12 for the shipping fees they mail them out for me; so that
13 is how it works. It is just a worked-in deal that --

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Well --

15 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: District 9
16 processes it; so for one hundred orders, I'm
17 answering -- I'm answering all of the calls from
18 everybody, and I'm taking care of the administrative
19 part of it.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Yeah.
21 Well, we are all volunteers. I mean, in our own
22 chapters. I assume you are a volunteer. We all have
23 responsibilities, but it seems like --

24 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: But we have --
25 we have --

1 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: -- with
2 your -- with your responsibility your district receives
3 funding for that; is that correct?

4 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: That -- that's
5 basically correct.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: How is
7 that different than anybody else?

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER: They do the work.

9 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: We do the work
10 for the processing.

11 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON:
12 Everybody does the work. The Vice President goes around
13 the chapters.

14 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: Well --

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON:
16 Everybody does -- the Secretary does the work.
17 Everybody does the work.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: He is discussing
19 things that aren't -- this is something that we have
20 precedent.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. We have
22 precedents set. I understand that. I understand your
23 question. Thank you. But it isn't a part of the
24 administrative cost of having a uniform back patch, and
25 that's why we have to have one central location for it

1 to come from so we don't have 2,000 different sets of
2 patches out to where we all look some -- a lot
3 different; so therefore, that is why we have the one
4 source and the one person or the one district that --
5 that does that for us.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON:

7 I understand that.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON:

10 I understand that.

11 My question, though, is why are we paying
12 someone to do that job, to place the orders, when we
13 all --

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Because somebody
15 actually needs to get paid for it --

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: Okay.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- to do that. We,
18 as we all know, don't get any pay. In the end, the
19 profits do go back. The manufacturer, of course, has to
20 get his -- has to get their cut. Okay?

21 That is just the cost of doing business. The
22 profits that go to the Rolling 9s goes back into their
23 programs that helps veterans.

24 ALR DOC QUARTERMASTER TAFOYA: So the

25 American Legion continues to --

1 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: The Riders.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Go ahead, Jaime.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 272 DELEGATE GONZALEZ:

4 Jaime Gonzalez, Chapter 272, also a delegate.

5 Is that something that can be properly assigned
6 to a different chapter who would not want that royalty?

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: That is an
8 issue to be negotiated with the DEC.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And, believe it or
10 not, that is a question that we are going to take up.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: In the DEC.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So we've got to find
13 somebody; so you know, we are going to -- eventually
14 this is going to come around again; so this is not an
15 ending thing. This is going to be an ongoing thing.
16 Again, we do have to have uniformity.

17 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Uniformity.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE JOHNSON: No
19 argument there.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The question has
21 been called. No more.

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: More than
23 a half an hour out.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. All in
25 favor of said motion, that was a little bit ago, to

1 raise it to 85, raise it the \$20, signify by saying aye.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Nay.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The ayes have it.

6 I know there was a Uniform Committee; is that
7 correct, Smokey?

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Uniform Committee
10 report?

11 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE STOWERS: My name
12 is Sonny Stowers with Chapter 852, also a delegate to
13 this convention.

14 The Uniform Committee recommends the
15 American Legion Riders Department of California adopt
16 the proposed resolution.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE STOWERS: You're
19 welcome.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Now I know that we
21 all have bladders of steel and we can wait up; however,
22 it has been brought to my attention that somebody needs
23 a break.

24 We will recess for five minutes.

25 ///

1 (Short recess taken from
2 5:11 p.m. to 5:18 p.m.)

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We're back in
4 session. Take your seat.

5 All right. Ladies and gentlemen, we still have
6 a lot of work to do before the day is done, and we still
7 have resolutions. We have eleven.

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Eleven?

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We have nine
10 resolutions that we have got to go through, and what we
11 have to do is -- just for the sake of time we are going
12 to read each resolution, vote on that resolution, and
13 then go on to the next one. Okay?

14 So that way we are not stuck reading nine
15 resolutions, and then what was that first one about when
16 we go to vote. Okay?

17 And then as soon as that is done we have to
18 open nomination for candidates for the executive
19 offices, which are President, Vice President, and
20 Sergeant-at-Arms. All right?

21 So where is Anita Bart?

22 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: She is
23 not here.

24 Would you like me to get her?

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes, please.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER: She is eating tri-tip.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: That is not fair.

3 That is not fair.

4 Ah, there you are. Tim, have you got

5 something? It's got to be real quick.

6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: All right. I would just like
7 to make a motion that we put out to one manufacturer in
8 each area for bid for the top and lower flairs and see
9 who can get the cheaper price, with shipping included on
10 it.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And one thing for
12 that is for uniformity sakes. If we take it to
13 somewhere else we may not have the same font, the same
14 color, the same everything that we have now. Okay?

15 Again, as I stated earlier, we are going to --
16 this actually came up in the DEC, and we are going to be
17 discussing this --

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Okay.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- in the very near
20 future.

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I withdraw my motion.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. So he
23 withdrew his motion.

24

25 ///

RESOLUTIONS

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ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So ladies and gentlemen, this is Anita Bart for resolutions.

(Applause.)

ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
We have nine resolutions for you today; so hopefully you will follow all of the rules and regulations so we can get through them quickly.

I am not going to be reading all of them. I have help because of so many resolutions; so other members of the Resolutions Committee is going to come up and read some of this.

But the first one, resolution number one, is type of domestic partner definition for inclusion into the American Legion Riders bylaws, original membership that came out of the membership committee because that is where part of it is.

Whereas, the American Legion Riders are a national program in the American Legion as passed by American Legion National Executive Committee by Resolution 35 on October 17th, 2007, and resolution --

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Slow down.

ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
Sorry.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Go ahead.

2 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

3 -- on May 4th and through 5th, 2011; and

4 Whereas, the American Legion Riders are
5 a program of the American Legion in fifty states and
6 four countries; and

7 Whereas, membership in the Legion Riders has
8 grown to include more than 100,000 members in the
9 American Legion, Auxiliary, and Sons of the
10 American Legion; and

11 Whereas, American Legion Riders, like the Sons
12 of the American Legion, are a national program of the
13 American Legion; and

14 Whereas, the state of California, under
15 Family Code 297, defines domestic partner as either of
16 the following: Both persons are members of the same
17 sex; or, B, one or both of the persons meet the
18 eligibility criteria under Title 2 of the
19 Social Security Act, as defined in Section 402(a) of
20 Title 42 of the United States Code for old age insurance
21 benefits or Title 16 of the Social Security Act as
22 defined in Section 1381 of Title 42 of the United States
23 Code for aged individuals. Notwithstanding any other
24 provision of this section, persons of opposite sexes may
25 not constitute a domestic partnership unless one or both

1 of the persons are over sixty-two years of age; (5),
2 both persons are capable of consenting to the domestic
3 partnership. This is a clarification for what is
4 already in our bylaws;

5 Whereas, on June 14th, 2010, the U.S. Office of
6 Personnel Management issued final regulations to modify
7 its definition of family member and immediate relatives
8 and -- and related definition 75 FR 33491 in response to
9 Section 1 of the President's June 17th, 2009, memorandum
10 for the heads of executive departments and agencies on
11 federal benefits of -- and nondiscrimination;

12 Whereas, these new and revised definitions
13 modify the regulation -- regulation at 5 CFR Part 630
14 subpart (b), (h), (i), (j), and (k) related to the use
15 of sick leave, funeral leave, voluntary leave, transfer,
16 voluntary leaving, and emergency leave transfers and
17 expand to have registered individuals and described
18 domestic partner as an adult in a committed relationship
19 with another adult, including both same and opposite sex
20 relationships, a relationship in which the employee and
21 the domestic partner of the employee are each other's
22 sole domestic partner and are not married to or domestic
23 partners with anyone else and share responsibility for a
24 significant measure of each other's common welfare and
25 financial obligations. This includes, but is not

1 limited to, any relationship between two individuals of
2 the same or opposite sex that is granted legal
3 recognition by a state or by the District of Columbia as
4 a marriage or analogous -- okay -- relationship,
5 including, but not limited to, a civil union;

6 Whereas, the American Legion Riders bylaws does
7 not have a nondiscriminatory definition of not domestic
8 partner; and

9 Whereas, the American Legion Chapter 365 and
10 other chapters could increase membership with other
11 chapters with this addition to the federal definition;
12 and

13 Whereas, the American Legion Riders have
14 potential members that are currently discriminated by
15 the state of California Family Code 296 definition due
16 to age and/or sexual preference.

17 Now, therefore, be it resolved that the
18 American Legion Riders, in regular meeting assembled in
19 Clovis, California, on April 17th through the 19th,
20 2015, that the American Legion Riders Department of
21 California request that the domestic partner definition
22 be prescribed by federal definition as prescribed; and

23 Be it further resolved that in the
24 American Legion chapters that they use the domestic
25 partner definition in the American Legion Riders bylaws

1 so as to prevent the further of age and/or sexual
2 preference discrimination.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Did you get all
4 that?

5 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
6 Do you understand it?

7 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

8 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
9 Okay. We can have the person who submitted it explain
10 it to you, if they would like.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can we get the
12 Reader's Digest?

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Bryan.

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 149 DELEGATE TREUL:
15 Bryan Treul, Chapter 149.

16 Wow. I'm just going to make a motion to accept
17 resolution number one.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
19 the floor.

20 Is there a second?

21 You need to approach. Now you see why we are
22 doing it one at a time?

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE HAEUSSLER:
24 Art Haeussler, Chapter 365.

25 I second the motion.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We have a motion on
2 the floor that has been seconded.

3 Is there any discussion?

4 (No response.)

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All in favor of said
6 motion signify by --

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Wait. Wait.
8 Wait.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: As you were.

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: Let's wait
11 for the smoke to clear.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Really?

13 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Really?

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: You went there?

15 All right. Smokey.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Just to
17 clarify, the difference here means that someone does not
18 have to have a legal relationship with their partner for
19 them to be a member of this organization, but that
20 person does have to be a member of a parent
21 organization. In other words, a registered domestic
22 partner is very much defined in the California code or
23 a marital partner is also defined in the California
24 code. The federal regulation doesn't require that.
25 What we have commonly referred to in California for

1 a long time as common-law relationship where persons are
2 living together, contribute moneys together, but have no
3 legal obligation to each other.

4 The only further issue I have -- and I did not
5 see this one before it came out because I believe that
6 the registered domestic partner that is adopted by the
7 American Legion in the Department of California is the
8 California code, not the federal; and, therefore, such
9 an agreement by us would probably be rescinded anyway.
10 But the issue is it deletes that partnership.

11 And, unfortunately, realistically, that means
12 that your girlfriend can't be a member or your boyfriend
13 can't be a member of this organization unless they are
14 the underlying parent member organization qualified. It
15 doesn't make any exemption to that.

16 Just to clarify the issue from my standpoint,
17 I believe it creates bigger problems, and it has --
18 my -- my opinion is that we do not adopt the resolution
19 because it opens up too many issues in regards to this.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

21 Doc.

22 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ:

23 I followed most of the motion until at the very end the
24 word "may" came in with regard to chapters putting this
25 thing in.

1 So this would be a state -- in the state's
2 bylaws, but wouldn't require chapters to put it in it?
3 It would just be a may?

4 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

5 It does say "may."

6 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: So
7 I don't know if that changes anything to Smokey, but --

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: It does say "may."

9 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

10 It does say "may."

11 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: It
12 would muddy the waters by making --

13 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: A lot.

14 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: -- you
15 know, what happens across the street different from what
16 happens on this side of the street; so I think if we
17 adopt something like this, it has to be uniform, and we
18 should probably craft language that would be required to
19 be added to each chapter's bylaws.

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: Exactly.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 108 DELEGATE HENRY:

22 Patrick Henry, Chapter 108, delegate to this convention.

23 I don't understand the necessity of this.

24 I understood a lot of the bureaucratese language of it,
25 but I don't see how that relates to the American Legion

1 Riders. And from what I could understand of the
2 relationship aspect of it, it doesn't affect
3 heterosexual relationships unless one is over sixty-two
4 and disabled. And I don't understand how that effect --
5 how any of this has any effect at all on American Legion
6 Riders, Auxiliary, or anything else, for that matter.

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Well, just to
8 reiterate, red-shirt domestic partners are very much
9 defined in California. You have to be over sixty-five.
10 You have to be of the same sex. Okay?

11 It is California's alternative to marriage. It
12 is very much defined. That person can be a member of
13 the Riders, even though they don't own a motorcycle and
14 don't have a motorcycle license, by being the registered
15 domestic partner of a member who does.

16 The resolution here wants to expand that to the
17 federal definition that says they don't have to be over
18 sixty-five. They don't have to be of the same sex. It
19 could be a girlfriend and boyfriend or a girlfriend and
20 boyfriend, and that common-law relationship that
21 California doesn't recognize at all but that certain
22 federal -- and those mostly tax rulings refer to as a
23 common-law relationship for certain benefits that are
24 received by federal employees.

25 Specifically, the one that she is referring to,

1 I can tell you an attorney, refers to health care and
2 other retirement benefits based on a certain job that
3 you may have.

4 For us to expand that as the American Legion
5 Riders means that I've got a girlfriend, I want her to
6 ride with me, I want her to wear the emblem on the back,
7 she doesn't own a bike, she doesn't have a license, and
8 if she is a member of the Auxiliary of the post, then
9 she could potentially do that. It doesn't exempt that,
10 which, unfortunately, part of the language, if you read
11 it very carefully, attempts to do that, I believe, in
12 regards to that in that it is allowing this expansion of
13 that membership issue, but there is still that
14 underlying issue that they have to be a member of the
15 Auxiliary. If it were a boyfriend, they would have to
16 be a member of the Sons.

17 But it expands it much beyond what the state of
18 California does. And I was just making a quick perusal
19 of the Legion statement. And the wording that is used
20 in ours is identical, I believe, to the California
21 American Legion, which means we would be in violation of
22 our parent organization at the moment by using a federal
23 definition that has not been adopted by our parent
24 organization.

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 108 DELEGATE HENRY: Thank you.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Mr. Coleman.

2 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: Chris Coleman,
3 delegate to this convention, and your state
4 Vice President -- which I want to say state
5 Vice President, not federal. Okay? State.

6 What is the state of California's definition?
7 That is what we go by, period. What our parent
8 organization states, that is what we go by. We are not
9 going to change that. If they change it, let them
10 change it in Ontario next year.

11 Thank you.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Mr. Bennett.

13 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT:
14 J.D. Bennett, Chapter 509, delegate to this convention.

15 I think that resolution had a lot of
16 convolution in it. And I can -- I don't have a masters
17 degree and -- but I am pretty intelligent. I can
18 understand most things, and I understand the resolution.
19 I have read resolutions. That resolution sounded
20 convoluted to me. There was a lot of things in there
21 that some made sense, some didn't make sense. I don't
22 know where the American Legion Riders Department of
23 California falls under any federal regulations that we
24 need to stipulate to unless our parent organization,
25 like Chris Coleman alluded to, change that, and then we

1 would follow suit. As it stands, I would say this is --

2 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: We don't fall
3 under that federal statute because --

4 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: --
5 something that we should get involved in.

6 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: That is for
7 benefits. We don't provide any benefits. We are
8 a membership organization.

9 And just to clarify -- to help clarify the
10 motion that those things talk about benefits, something
11 that you receive at a job, something that you receive in
12 employment. We don't do that in this organization. We
13 are not subject to that because this is a voluntary,
14 membership-driven and membership-owned organization.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Last comment.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE HAEUSSLER: Yes.
17 Art Haeussler, Chapter 365.

18 This is where the resolution originated.
19 Understand something: It is not a tax law that is in
20 front of you. This is a common-sense law. This country
21 changed in 2010 where we allow domestic partners, both
22 heterosexual and homosexual nationwide, but in this
23 state you are not allowed to be a heterosexual domestic
24 partner under the age of sixty-two. It is not about
25 a girlfriend. The federal regulations clearly define

1 that you have a committed relationship. And we have
2 members in our chapter, and I'm sure in your chapters,
3 that are Auxiliary and Sons and veterans that cannot
4 become a significant other with the Riders because of
5 the discrimination of age and sexual preference in this
6 state. That is what this resolution is about.

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: That is not for
8 us to decide.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 365 DELEGATE HAEUSSLER: Thank
10 you.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

12 With that said, all in favor of said motion to
13 adopt this resolution signify by saying aye.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

16 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: No.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion fails. The
18 resolution fails.

19 Next one. Resolution number two. You can read
20 it from the floor.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: Oh.

22 Hy Libby, President of Chapter 31 and a delegate to this
23 convention.

24 Resolution number two is entitled resolution to
25 bar sitting Chapter President from holding the office of

1 Area Vice President.

2 Whereas, the office of Area Vice President
3 requires the officeholder to act upon direction of the
4 American Legion Riders Department Executive Committee;
5 and

6 Whereas, there are times when such direction
7 meets justifiable concerns and differences of opinion on
8 the part of chapter membership; and

9 Whereas, the American Legion Riders is
10 a members-driven organization; and

11 Whereas, one of the primary duties of
12 a Chapter President is to fairly represent the voice and
13 the position of chapter members in communicating with
14 the American Legion Riders Department Executive
15 Committee; and

16 Whereas, simultaneously serving as
17 Chapter President and Area Vice President can place an
18 undue burden on the officeholder in efforts to mitigate
19 such differences.

20 Therefore, be it resolved that no sitting
21 American Legion Riders Chapter President will
22 simultaneously hold the office of Area Vice President
23 for the duration of his time in office;

24 Be it further resolved that no sitting
25 Area Vice President will be allowed to assume the office

1 of Chapter President the duration of his time in office;
2 and

3 Be it finally resolved that no Past President
4 shall be denied the opportunity to serve as
5 Area Vice President.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: What was the -- did
8 the committee come up with?

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Did the committee
10 come up with a recommendation for that one?

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Okay.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: The
13 committee offers a positive recommendation for adopting
14 this resolution.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

16 So I'm willing to entertain a motion to accept
17 this resolution.

18 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: What is the name of
19 the person that just spoke?

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Just a second. Can
21 you please state your name again, the one who just read
22 the resolution, for the reporter.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: First name
24 Hy, H-y, last of L-i-b-b-y.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you. Thank

1 you.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE GONZALEZ:

3 Jaime Gonzalez, Chapter 262, delegate this to

4 convention.

5 I make a motion to accept the resolution number

6 two.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Number two, I have

8 a motion on the floor that has been seconded.

9 Is there any discussion?

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE STOWERS: Second

11 again.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Oh, I'm sorry.

13 I haven't been seconded.

14 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE STOWERS:

15 Sonny Stowers, Chapter 852.

16 I make a motion to accept the resolution number

17 two.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

19 A motion is on the floor. Now it's been

20 seconded. Thank you.

21 Is there any discussion?

22 (No response.)

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Being no discussion,

24 all in favor of said motion signify by saying aye.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Nay.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion carries.

4 That is going to be brought in --

5 Yes, sir, Hy, go ahead. Go ahead. We're on
6 resolution number three of nine.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: I'm still
8 Hy Libby, President of Chapter 31, and a delegate to
9 this convention.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: You are still
11 Mr. Libby.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: I am.
13 Well, my dad was Mr. Libby.

14 This does not have a title; however, I can at
15 least explain before I get into it that it is
16 a resolution that is requesting clarification on the
17 Department of California Resolution 15-004 as follows:

18 Whereas, the authority of the Department of
19 California American Legion Executive Committee to write
20 or receive and subsequently pass resolutions referring
21 to the bylaws of the American Legion Riders, hereinafter
22 ALR, affecting the conduct, behavior, activities, and
23 mode of dress of the various chapters and members of the
24 ALR is recognized by the ALR, and that it is the desire
25 of the chapters and members to adhere to the letter and

1 spirit of such resolutions and bylaws in order to act in
2 accordance with the objectives of the American Legion
3 and the ALR; and

4 Whereas, there exists among the ALR membership
5 confusion over portions of American Legion
6 Resolution 15-004 that do not clearly define the terms
7 found in Resolution 15-004 and that several of those
8 portions of Resolution 15-004 are found lacking in
9 specificity and are directly related to the uniform
10 standards for ALR members, as dictated by the
11 American Legion; and

12 Whereas, other portions of 15-004 found lacking
13 in specificity are related to association and
14 affiliation of chapters and members with other
15 motorcycle oriented organizations, specifically to
16 outlaw motorcycle gangs or OMGs.

17 Therefore, resolved on the issue of dress code
18 that the existing Uniform Committee be directed to
19 establish and publish exact standards by which all
20 patches, pins, apparel, or other adornments shall be
21 judged to be either appropriate or inappropriate; and

22 Be it further resolved that each ALR area's
23 member -- all of the Uniform Committee, acting with full
24 knowledge and understanding of said standards, will
25 serve as the arbiter of any patches worn or proposed to

1 be worn by members of the chapters within that area; and

2 Be it further resolved that a member shall have
3 the right to appeal the decision of an area member of
4 the Uniform Committee to the full committee upon
5 submission of a photograph or a digital image of the
6 patch or patches and a brief explanation of their
7 suitability under the standards; and

8 Be it further resolved on the issue of
9 associations and affiliations that the ALR DOC Adjutant
10 be directed to prepare and publish a definitive list of
11 criteria for ascertaining if a motorcycle club is an
12 affiliate of any motorcycle club currently listed on the
13 California Attorney General's list of OMGs for purposes
14 of determining if association with its members is
15 permitted; and

16 Be it finally resolved that no incidental
17 contact by a member of an ALR chapter with a member of
18 any other motorcycle club shall be construed as
19 association or affiliation with that club, to include
20 participation in local or regional events where members
21 of such clubs may be present in a social setting or
22 a casual contact in an otherwise public setting.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: And the

1 committee recommends that this resolution be adopted.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Then I'm willing to
3 entertain a motion to adopt said resolution.

4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE SARIO:
5 Anthony Sario, Chapter 31, appointed delegate to this
6 convention.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No. No. This is
8 the initial motion.

9 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE SARIO: I actually
10 teach Robert's Rules. Yeah. I would like to make an
11 initial motion to accept as read.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: A motion has been
13 made.

14 Is there a second?

15 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY:
16 Stephanie Early, Chapter 872.

17 I second the motion.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: A motion has been
19 made and seconded.

20 Discussion?

21 Mr. Stover.

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Before the
23 discussion I would like a personal point of order from
24 me, the ALR DOC JA.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please.

1 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: You guys have
2 made me very happy. In reality, this resolution, you
3 will hear in a few minutes, is already being
4 addressed -- an issue that we tried to address from the
5 moment that we had 15-004 in lacking specificity --
6 which that is a hard word to say.

7 In regards to this, what this resolution is
8 asking is for clarification and explanation which is
9 what I can tell you your executive committee has been
10 working really hard to do.

11 As your JA, I got together with members of the
12 Uniform Committee. Hopefully most, if not all of you,
13 received the one hundred fifty small, folded-in-half
14 uniform manuals that I had set out for you when you got
15 your credentials so you had some idea of coming up with
16 some realistic standards. If not, I know there is a lot
17 of copies around to be circulated.

18 The second that this asked for is the next
19 thing that was the next step after we passed our
20 resolution this morning -- is how do we address this
21 patch issue? And this is actually very articulately
22 read in that the issue -- take it to your area
23 representative on the Uniform Committee. If you are not
24 pleased with that decision, then the entire
25 Uniform Committee looks at it, and anything beyond that

1 would be an executive issue that would go through your
2 Area Vice President of the DEC.

3 Further, there is actions about what
4 association and affiliates. I have been in this
5 organization nine years -- or eight years, and a lot of
6 time I have been involved with issues that happen within
7 the DEC with Doc Bart in the past and that types of
8 thing. I would be glad to write for you a definition
9 for affiliation and association. I would say it is
10 really simple and something that could be very simply
11 drafted that makes it clear for everyone.

12 The Attorney General's list of outlaw
13 motorcycle clubs is listed on a number of different
14 somewhat confidential law enforcement Websites but is
15 available and could be published or adopted as to that
16 list.

17 Incidental contact is the one thing we always
18 talk about, and I hear it a lot. And in writing
19 a definition to expand that issue, it would be like you
20 to go to a bike lesson at the Episcopal church, the AJ
21 and four other groups that I know I don't want to be
22 around show up, and I'm going to be there with my bike
23 too. Well, in reality, that is that incidental contact
24 you are talking about here.

25 But if they have got a better thing down the

1 street that the AJs are sponsoring, then you don't wear
2 your vest there. You don't wear your American Legion
3 regalia. That is what association is, going to their
4 clubhouse, drinking beers, that kind of thing; so it is
5 very easy to define for you.

6 Affiliation also goes to the idea that if there
7 is a bike lesson in your town at the Episcopal church,
8 and at the bottom they want to list the motorcycle clubs
9 that want to participate, if one of them is an OMG, then
10 you can't be on this list. You want to be a single
11 sponsor of that; that is a different type of issue. But
12 that is what affiliation is. In other words, I am
13 lending my name to that group.

14 These are things that we can define. We can
15 define them very easily. Hopefully, I have given you
16 some basic idea of that just speaking here. I mean,
17 I don't want to take up too much time, but this is our
18 next step after 15-004 and, hopefully, it is one of the
19 last timing that we have to spend a whole day at
20 a convention doing it because I'd rather talk about
21 scholarships and money and building houses and state
22 events.

23 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Amen.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:

2 Mr. President, my name is Peter Calvert. I'm an
3 appointed delegate to this convention. I stand
4 representing District 28.

5 I stand in support of this resolution. This
6 resolution came out of a meeting that was held inside
7 Area 2 at the -- at a meeting from District 28 in
8 response to what was going on with 15-004. The purpose
9 of -- and I was personally involved in the actual
10 writing of this.

11 The purpose of this resolution is to make sure
12 that from the membership that it is clear to our senior
13 leadership that we are looking for a very, very specific
14 set of guidelines.

15 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Thank you.

16 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT: We
17 have been told that this is something which is going to
18 be addressed by -- by the senior leadership. But this
19 is a resolution to make sure that our senior leadership
20 hears the voice of its membership that these are the
21 sort of things that we need to have involved from the
22 membership and in interaction with our senior
23 leadership.

24 I should like to especially point out that at
25 the beginning it specifically says that we, as members

1 of the ALR, recognize that we are, at the core, members
2 of the American Legion. We recognize that the Legion
3 has the right to be able to give us a set of
4 instructions about almost anything. We just want to
5 make sure that we have our leader -- that our leadership
6 knows that this is such an important issue that we feel
7 it needs to be brought to the floor.

8 Thank you for your time.

9 Judge Advocate, thank you.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

11 Last comment.

12 ALR DOC CHAPTER 136 DELEGATE WATHEN:

13 Bob Wathen, Chapter 136, appointed delegate.

14 I just -- basically, just a point of
15 clarification.

16 Does this resolution imply that there will be
17 a printed standard that will absolutely define exactly
18 what goes on the vest and where it goes?

19 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes. That is
20 what it requires, and that is what is being proposed.
21 Whether we adopt the one that is currently being
22 proposed or we have to work one out, we have got to
23 start somewhere. And that is what this says is we need
24 to publish an actual dress code so everyone knows
25 exactly what it means. Because the terms that are in

1 the bylaws are too vague, and what it is asking for is
2 clarification.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 136 DELEGATE WATHEN: So
4 therefore, it is up to the Uniform Committee to
5 determine exactly what patches can go where and are
6 allowed?

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It specifies
8 that if you have a patch and you have a question about
9 it, if there is a question about where it goes, you ask
10 your local area Uniform Committee member. If you don't
11 like the answer you get back from them, then you can
12 appeal to the entire committee members, which is six of
13 them from six areas, and they make a resolution -- or
14 a decision as a group where they -- every area has equal
15 voice and vote. I think that is a great issue because
16 it makes continuity.

17 If there were a further issue that you didn't
18 like that, then you can go to your Area Vice President
19 to talk about in a Department Executive Committee
20 because, in reality, those Uniform Committees are
21 a derivative of the executive committee. But it really
22 sets up a very simple chain of command. If you have got
23 a question, you can get it answered, but we are going to
24 give you -- a basic written standard is what it says.
25 Give me a written standard. For lack of a better term,

1 paint me the picture so I know when I look at it I can
2 hold my vest up and say yes or no.

3 ALR DOC CHAPTER 136 DELEGATE WATHEN:

4 I understand.

5 Thank you.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The question has
7 been called. Hopefully you understood everything that
8 is going to happen if this is passed.

9 All in favor of said motion signify by saying
10 aye.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

13 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Nay.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is up to you
15 to call that.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Let's do that again
17 because it is borderline, and I want to try to avoid
18 a roll call vote.

19 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: You can ask
20 them to stand.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

22 All in favor of said motion please stand.

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That solves that.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

25 Sit down.

1 All against said motion please stand.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: You guys are really
3 loud.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion carries.
5 (Applause.)

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Number four.

7 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Do you have
8 four? Do you have four?

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And we still have
10 nominations to go, so....

11 But these are important things that we have got
12 to -- that we have to discuss.

13 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
14 These motions come directly from you guys. These
15 resolutions come directly from you guys; so this is
16 something you need to talk about.

17 Number four, Article XI, Section 1 of the
18 American Legion Riders Department of California bylaws
19 states that each committee member serve a three-year
20 term or until someone else is appointed; and

21 Whereas, Article XII --

22 Sorry about that. Talking about 12.

23 -- Section 2 states no person shall serve on
24 the same department committee for more than three
25 consecutive terms; and

1 Whereas, this allows a person to sit as
2 a committee chair on the same committee for nine years.

3 Therefore, be it resolved by the Department of
4 California Executive Committee of the American Legion
5 Riders in regular meeting assembled in Clovis,
6 California, April 17th through 19th, 2015, that
7 Article XII, Section 2, no person shall serve on the
8 same department committee for more than one term or
9 three consecutive years;

10 Be it finally resolved that effective
11 immediately all committee chairs that have exceeded the
12 one term shall not be reappointed -- reappointed as
13 committee chair.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

15 Oh, and how does the Resolutions Committee --

16 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
17 The Resolutions Committee recommends that this to go
18 forward.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

20 I'm willing to entertain a motion to accept
21 this resolution. Some of you read it.

22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE GONZALEZ:

23 Jaime Gonzalez, Chapter 262.

24 I make a motion to accept this resolution.

25 I believe it is number -- four?

1 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Four.

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE GONZALEZ: Four.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: There is a motion on
4 the floor.

5 Is there a second?

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE PHILLIPS:
7 Leonard Phillips, Chapter 852, a delegate to this
8 convention.

9 We second that motion number four.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

11 I have a motion on the floor that has been
12 seconded.

13 Discussion?

14 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN:

15 Dan Freeman, President, District 10.

16 Does this mean the official chairman or is it
17 someone that has been appointed to be the person to call
18 because all of the things that we had in our caucus, we
19 only had three or four of them that were certified
20 chairpersons; so there is five areas -- say, for -- I'm
21 in the Convention City. Nobody is appointed the
22 chairperson for that. There might be Terry Boughman,
23 but he just has the knowledge.

24 So is it for every committee and who is going
25 to be appointed the chairperson?

1 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes.

2 Want me to clarify?

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I get to appoint --

4 I get to appoint the committee chair.

5 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Aren't you lucky?

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Aren't I lucky all

7 over again.

8 Doc.

9 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: I don't

10 recall that power to appoint on the committees.

11 Generally, the committees meet on their own, and once

12 they are seated in open discussion, they elect among

13 themselves. And I think that is the same that the

14 department handles it.

15 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No.

17 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: I get to do the

18 chairman and the vice chairmen.

19 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: Okay.

20 Thank you.

21 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: You get to

22 volunteer.

23 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: My only

24 question is that I -- you know, like, in my post we have

25 an Adjutant who is a great Adjutant, and if our post had

1 only had him for three years and we termed him out and
2 he could never return at that particular position, our
3 post would have shut down. Okay?

4 We still reserve the right to vote. I don't
5 think anybody gets to say, oh, that's what I was last
6 year. I get to be it again this year whether you want
7 me or not. No one has ever had or made claim to that
8 ability here. We always vote them in, and if they are
9 good at their job, they keep it. If they are not, we
10 get rid of them. And I think it is a great way. It is
11 a very democratic way. In terms of who the chair is
12 going to be, you know, I think that -- if you are going
13 to appoint them or whatever, I think it is a better
14 group dynamics to allow the group to pick its own, but
15 that doesn't mean -- the Legion has been around a long
16 time. That doesn't meant that it is --

17 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It doesn't
18 affect the Adjutant.

19 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: I'm not an Adjutant.

20 ALR DOC PAST PRESIDENT/WEBMASTER DIAZ: That's
21 just my thought. I don't think it is a necessary piece
22 of legislation. I don't think we need to term out
23 committee members. I think if people are doing a good
24 job -- we are still a small organization, and we still
25 are going to rely on -- on that knowledge that they

1 carry forward. And I don't think it is a good idea to
2 term people out like that.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

4 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Just to
5 clarify -- just to clarify, this resolution only affects
6 committees, like your Membership Committee, your
7 Uniform Committee, that type of thing. They can only
8 serve -- as we say it now, you are actually appointed to
9 that committee until you are relieved for a period of
10 three years. Typically, in the past it's been every
11 year somebody new. As we do it in Area 3, somebody new
12 sneezes and he gets appointed in regards to that.

13 And this is simply saying that if you are going
14 to be on one of those committees, then you are on that
15 committee for three years instead of nine because that
16 would be three terms.

17 You can do a number of different issues here.
18 And, again, as the chairmen are appointed, it would be
19 someone who has experience, but once they termed out and
20 may return at a later point as a member of the committee
21 would not be appointed as the current committee
22 chairman. In other words, one person would not have
23 control over -- or whatever of the administrative
24 committee longer than the three-year term. And it does
25 not affect Adjutants because Adjutants are not in

1 committee position.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Hopefully that is
3 clear.

4 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Hopefully.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Any further
6 discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So what we're voting
9 on is to -- for term limits, if that is -- I understand
10 it correctly.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Term limits for
12 committees.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Term limits for
14 committee members only -- chairpersons of those
15 committees.

16 All in favor of said motion signify by saying
17 aye.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: No.

21 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Have them
22 stand.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Here we go again.

24 All in favor of said motion please stand. And
25 not stand because you just want to stretch.

1 Please be seated.

2 All against said motion please stand.

3 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: This motion passes.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: By a small margin it
5 passes.

6 (Applause.)

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right.

8 Resolution number?

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Five.

10 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

11 Okay. Here with go.

12 Whereas, the American Legion Riders at its
13 annual rallies has promoted an active involvement by its
14 members -- members, chapters, and areas; and

15 Whereas, numerous city and state rallies
16 through the years have put the American Legion Riders on
17 record encouraging all riders to attend the state
18 rallies; and

19 Whereas, the American Legion Riders Department
20 of California uses a similar process of holding
21 department conventions in the northern and southern
22 parts of the state of California in alternating years;
23 and

24 Whereas, our American Legion Riders are
25 threatened by an apathetic and disenfranchised

1 population which chooses not to participate in the
2 American Legion Riders Department of California state
3 rally; and

4 Whereas, the members of the American Legion
5 Riders have the unique opportunity to participate in the
6 process and to encourage others to do so as well; and

7 Whereas, the rotation of the state rally
8 between northern and southern California have the
9 privilege of the encouragement of all eligible riders to
10 participate in all Department of California events.

11 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the
12 Department of California American Legion Riders in
13 regular meetings assembled in Clovis, California, on
14 April 27th -- or April 17th through 19th, 2015, and the
15 American Legion Riders hold the Department of California
16 state rally in Areas 1, 2, and 3 on years ending with an
17 even number and holding the Department of California
18 state rallies in Areas 4, 5, and 6 on years ending with
19 the odd number; and

20 Be it finally resolved that the American Legion
21 Riders Department of California rotate the department
22 state rallies between Areas 1, 2, and 3 on even numbered
23 years and Areas 4, 5, and 6 on odd numbered years.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And how does the
25 committee recommend?

1 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

2 We recommend that it go forward too.

3 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Point of
4 clarification.

5 There is no effective date.

6 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

7 Huh?

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Point of
9 clarification.

10 There is no effective date.

11 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

12 No what?

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Effective date.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Effective date.

15 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

16 Oh, effective date on it? No. They did not have an
17 effective date on it. They did not do that.

18 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Because we
19 currently already have a rally scheduled.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yeah. I thought
21 this was something we had discussed last year.

22 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

23 We have it -- we have it for conventions, but we don't
24 have it for rallies.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Right. That's correct.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So I'm willing to
2 entertain a motion to accept said resolution. And
3 somebody be prepared for a second.

4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL:
5 Jim Sewell, Chapter 555, a delegate to the convention.

6 I make a motion that we accept resolution
7 number five as read.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
9 the floor.

10 Is there a second?

11 And if you are going to discuss -- point, if
12 you are going to discuss something, please line up, and
13 that will cut time way down. If you are not going to
14 discuss, obviously stay seated. If you are going to
15 second a motion, come on up. Okay?

16 If you are going to discuss, come on up. Even
17 if you are going to second it, come on up. Or even if
18 you are going to make it.

19 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE LOGAN: I,
20 Gary Logan, Chapter 555, second the motion.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion that
22 has been made and seconded.

23 Discussion?

24 Let's go with this gentleman over here.

25 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN: Once

1 again, Dan Freeman, District 10 President.

2 We have a committee, Convention City, who
3 determines where the convention is and the rallies.
4 There is a representative from each area, and that would
5 be your representative to talk to to where you want that
6 to be.

7 ALR DOC SAFETY OFFICER MATHES: Disagree.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Marc.

9 Thank you.

10 ALR DOC SAFETY OFFICER MATHES: Mark Mathes,
11 Chapter 3.

12 Last year for convention we passed a similar
13 resolution, and it made it to where the persons who were
14 going to do convention couldn't. This year we have
15 a rally set for Hanford, California, in Area 3.

16 Now, where would this fit for this rally this
17 year?

18 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is not set
19 forth in the resolution.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And that's why --
21 that's why the question of effective date was asked.

22 ALR DOC SAFETY OFFICER MATHES: Exactly.

23 So are we going to define the effective date
24 now or can we continue with the --

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We have to just talk

1 to what -- to what the resolution presented.

2 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: It says even years;
3 so -- and odd years, which is '15; so the rally --

4 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: So just for
5 clarification, that means that if this were to pass
6 today that the currently scheduled rally in Area 3 would
7 have to go somewhere else. It would have to go to --

8 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Right. It would have
9 to move.

10 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: -- 4, 5, or 6.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Right. It does say
12 here in the resolved, by the Department of California
13 Executive Committee of the American Legion Riders in
14 regular meeting assembled in Clovis, California, and the
15 dates, that the American Legion Riders hold the
16 Department of California state rallies in 1, 2, or --
17 and 3 in years ending with an even number.

18 Pardon me.

19 And hold the Department of California state
20 rally in Areas 4, 5, and 6 on years ending with an odd
21 number.

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Correct.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So we are in '15,
24 obviously an odd number. It would have to be in
25 Areas 4, 5, or 6.

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Who wrote the
2 resolution?

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Who wrote the
4 resolution?

5 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I did.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please.

7 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Would you be willing
8 to switch it?

9 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: I'll go
10 to the floor.

11 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Would you be willing
12 to switch it?

13 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: One
14 second.

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Thank you.

16 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: If he is willing to
17 switch.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Then we would have
19 to rewrite the resolution.

20 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Not necessarily.

21 DEPARTMENT COMMANDER WILSON: Change the date.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Smokey, just for
23 a point of clarity, for a resolution to be changed at
24 this last minute, say we wanted to swap the words
25 around --

1 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: To even and odd.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: -- to even and odd
3 to make it coincide with what we have current, what
4 would we have to go through?

5 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: We have to have
6 a new resolution because the resolution only stands as
7 read.

8 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So we have to have
9 a new resolution because it stands as read.

10 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: We could bring this
11 up again tomorrow.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: But we could bring
13 this up again tomorrow, I guess.

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER: You could do an amendment to
15 his resolution, just like a motion.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes. He can.

17 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Somebody check
18 Robert's Rules, and you'll see that that is --

19 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is the
20 person who made the motion to accept.

21 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:
22 Incorrect.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Please come to the
24 mike.

25 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: The motion

1 would have to be amended, not the resolution.

2 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And just for point
3 of clarity, all resolutions were due at 10:00 o'clock
4 this morning.

5 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:
6 Mr. President, Peter Calvert, Acting Parliamentarian for
7 this assembly, appointed delegate to this convention.

8 That point was incorrect for the following
9 reason: The motion before the floor has to do with the
10 acceptance of this resolution. The resolution is not
11 subject to change from the floor. And as it was
12 previously stated, since the resolution by the
13 convention rules were that they had to be at the hand of
14 the Resolution Committee by 10:00 a.m. this morning,
15 there is no other opportunity without changing the rules
16 of the -- the order of the day that would allow it to be
17 done at any other time.

18 Do you have any other questions, Mr. President?

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No.

20 Does anybody else have any questions for the
21 Parliamentarian?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: My understanding is that the
23 author of the resolution or a motion can entertain
24 a friendly amendment -- and in this case I would
25 recommend that the motion be passed -- that the

1 resolution be accepted exactly as written without any
2 problem with an onset date of one year from today.

3 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:

4 Again, since it -- since the rules have to do with
5 whether or not -- I'm sorry. The motion on the floor
6 has to do with what we are doing with this resolution,
7 there is no mechanism for changing the resolution even
8 by a so-called friendly amendment.

9 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It could not be
10 amended here. The motion could be to accept this
11 resolution with an effective date a year from now.

12 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:

13 That is possible.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So Smokey, please
15 come up and say that.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Just to
17 clarify, we can't change what is written, but the person
18 who made the motion to accept the resolution could
19 modify his motion to move to accept the resolution with
20 an effective date the following year.

21 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT: And
22 that is correct because there -- since there is no --
23 since there is no date in the current -- in the
24 resolution and, therefore, no comment -- no date in the
25 motion that could be added as an addition to the motion.

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So the motion could
2 be amended?

3 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:
4 That's correct.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Jim.

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL:
7 Jim Sewell, Chapter 555, delegate to the convention.

8 I would like to amend my motion to accept the
9 resolution with a -- an effective date -- yeah.
10 Whatever you guys said.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: An effective
12 date.

13 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL: 2016.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: January 1,
15 2016.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL: I just
17 want some tri-tip.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Don't we all. Don't
19 we all.

20 All right. When do you want to make it
21 effective?

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: January 1.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL: Next
24 year.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So January 1st,

1 2016?

2 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE SEWELL: Yes, sir.

3 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Okay.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The motion is
5 amended.

6 Do you still second? Oh, I'm sorry.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 555 DELEGATE LOGAN:

8 Gary Logan, Chapter 555, a delegate to this convention.

9 I still second.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

11 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Call for the question.

12 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: The question has
13 been called.

14 ALR DOC AREA 5 VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK: Cool.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: There you go. Go
16 sit down.

17 All in favor of said motion signify by saying
18 aye.

19 ALL PRESENT: Aye.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed? Anybody
21 opposed?

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion carries.

24 (Applause.)

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Wait. We're on

1 number --

2 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Six.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. Let's
4 keep going.

5 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE MUETZ:

6 Mike Muetz, Chapter 119, and a delegate to this con- --

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Convention.

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE MUETZ: --
9 convention, yes.

10 Resolution six has to do with audit of chapter
11 financial records.

12 Whereas, the American Legion Department of
13 California, by a delegate action at the 87th department
14 convention at Palm Springs, authorizes the establishment
15 of the American Legion Riders Department of California;
16 and

17 Whereas, the bylaws of the American Legion
18 Department of California require all posts complete
19 a yearly audit of accounts to protect the integrity of
20 the program; and

21 Whereas, each chapter of the American Legion
22 Riders is a program of the post or is sponsored by
23 a post; and

24 Whereas, it is necessary to accomplish
25 a modification of the bylaws of the American Legion

1 Riders Department of California to include
2 American Legion Riders chapter financial and
3 nonfinancial disclosures reports.

4 Now, therefore, be it resolved that each ALR
5 chapter shall keep books of their accounts of both
6 financial and nonfinancial information; and

7 Be it resolved that said books of account shall
8 be examined by a licensed accountant or a committee of
9 three competent persons, none of whom shall be the
10 President, Secretary, financial Officer, or any other
11 person charged with the responsibility of handling
12 chapter funds; and

13 Be it resolved that this information shall be
14 given to their respective post annually for audit; and

15 Be it resolved that such post accounts shall
16 contain, but not be limited to, both income and expenses
17 of the American Legion Riders chapter; and

18 Be it resolved that such books shall contain
19 the activities of the American Legion Riders chapter to
20 include rides and fundraisers; and

21 Be it resolved that all financial and
22 nonfinancial information will be made available upon
23 reasonable request with reasonable notification by the
24 Executive Committee of the American Legion post or the
25 American Legion Post Executive Committee designated

1 representative; and

2 Be it resolved that such books of account shall
3 be given for their respective post not later than thirty
4 days prior to the opening of the annual American Legion
5 Riders department convention to facilitate federal tax
6 filings; and

7 Be it resolved that a copy of such books shall
8 be given to the American Legion Riders Department of
9 California Secretary also not later than thirty days
10 prior to the opening of the annual department
11 convention; and

12 Be it finally resolved that failure of the
13 chapter to meet any of the requirements of this section
14 within said times or any general or special extension
15 thereof shall be deemed in delinquency, and the
16 delegates of such chapter shall not be entitled to be
17 accredited at the department convention.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And how does the
19 committee recommend?

20 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE MUETZ: The
21 committee recommends adoption.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I'm willing to
23 entertain a motion to accept said resolution. Don't
24 everybody jump at once.

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 31 DELEGATE LIBBY: Hy Libby,

1 Chapter 31, a delegate to this convention.

2 I move that we adopt this resolution as read.

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
4 the floor.

5 Is there a second?

6 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE MUETZ:

7 Judy Muetz, a delegate to this convention, Chapter 119,
8 and Treasurer.

9 I second this.

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
11 the floor that has been made and seconded.

12 Discussion?

13 And I see Don Christolear approaching.

14 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR:

15 Don Christolear, Finance Officer, Department of
16 California.

17 Just for clarification, does this -- is this
18 chapters or is this for the ALR DOC first?

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Chapters.

20 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Chapters.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Chapters reporting
22 to the posts.

23 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: I don't know.

24 At the ALR DOC we have our books reviewed every year.

25 I'm just saying that an official audit costs a lot of

1 money, sometimes up to \$10,000 for one audit.

2 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It doesn't have
3 to be an audit.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: That is not what it
5 calls for. It calls for -- just like a post does, they
6 have a committee. The committee members that do not
7 have any fiscal responsibility in the posts sign off
8 that they have checked the books and that they are good.

9 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Thank you for
10 that clarification.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes, sir.
12 Stephanie.

13 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY: How is
14 this going to affect a chapter that only has five
15 members?

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: They would have to
17 do --

18 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY: We would
19 not have an available three members to conduct the
20 internal audit.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Good point.

22 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: But the post could.

23 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY: For
24 example, in my chapter we only have five members.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: So Steve whispered

1 in my ear that it was -- it is somebody from the post,
2 somebody who does not have a fiscal responsibility in
3 your chapter.

4 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY: So we
5 can -- just from regular post members from our
6 organization.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes.

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 872 DELEGATE EARLY: Thank you.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: As long as they are
10 not fiscally responsible for any post finances.

11 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: You mean
12 chapter?

13 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Chapter.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: That would also go
15 for the posts.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: We can't tell
17 the posts what to do.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We can't tell the
19 posts what to do.

20 Jaime.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 262 DELEGATE GONZALEZ:

22 Jaime Gonzalez, Chapter 262.

23 I think our Treasurers really have enough
24 burdens with the things that they already have to do.

25 I think there are checks and balances already in our

1 system, and I think we are going to make it more
2 complicated. Unless people want to be Treasurer --

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay.

4 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is a tax
5 issue.

6 (Applause.)

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: District 10 again.

8 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE FREEMAN: Yes.
9 Dan Freeman, District 10.

10 My question was what -- was it financial
11 records and nonfinancial records, what is the
12 nonfinancial records that the Treasurer is keeping that
13 needs to be audited?

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It would be
15 activities that generate money.

16 ALR DOC TREASURER CHRISTOLEAR: Financial and
17 nonfinancial. Financial transactions are money changing
18 hands directly back and forth. Nonfinancial, what the
19 reference here is that the general thing is to do is --
20 not financial information is we would not submit one
21 hundred hours only. Did we get some funds for that or
22 not? Your post is entitled to know that. In fact, as
23 Legion members you have a responsibility to fill that
24 out; so that is what they are saying is that the post
25 has the ability to not only look at your financials, but

1 also what are you doing as a form of activity that may
2 be beneficial to the post.

3 In other words, if they are asking you to fill
4 out those participation forms where you, you know, might
5 have as a post gone out and visited a hospital, take
6 somebody to Fresno. We get to log those hours in. And
7 if they ask for those things, this just requires that
8 you provide them.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

10 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE LABRADA:

11 Ed LaBrada, District 5 representative, delegate.

12 There is four posts represented by District 5.
13 We -- how is that going to affect us? How are we going
14 to be able to do that because we have our
15 Secretary/Treasurer, who actually serves for all four
16 posts, and we don't have a treasury ourselves on our
17 post or any of the other posts. Okay?

18 Thank you.

19 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Just to
20 clarify, your Riders have an account.

21 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE LABRADA: Yes, we
22 do.

23 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: And you have
24 a sponsored post that is designated?

25 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE LABRADA: The

1 sponsored post right now is 208.

2 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: That is who you
3 are responsible for. That's whose EIN number that you
4 are using. That's whose tax identification and tax
5 status that you would jeopardize as a Riders
6 organization collecting money and not reporting it.

7 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE LABRADA: Yes. We
8 know that. We are not -- we are not doing that; so it
9 is going right to our Treasurer; okay.

10 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Right.

11 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE LABRADA: He
12 reported it.

13 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: But then your
14 post has an obligation to maintain their integrity in
15 the state of California to find out what you, as
16 a program, are doing. In other words, they are entitled
17 to look at your books, find out what money came in and
18 came out because you are doing it under their tax
19 liability.

20 ALR DOC DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE LABRADA: Yes.
21 Okay.

22 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: And that clarifies
23 that.

24 Debbie?

25 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT:

1 Debbie Proffitt, Chapter 716, delegate to this
2 convention.

3 My question is our chapter already does that
4 with the post. As far as listing what we do, our hours,
5 whether it is financial or not, we log it in to the
6 state post. Every time we have a meeting, our Treasurer
7 has paperwork for all of the members that shows what
8 came in that month, what went out, and a copy of that
9 goes to the post; so we are already doing that.

10 My understanding on this resolution is all of
11 that also has to come to the ALR DOC?

12 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: No.

14 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It doesn't have
15 to come.

16 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT: That's
17 what I thought it says.

18 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No. The way it
19 is written is we can look at it. And the issue is you
20 are not required to submit it, but if the ALR DOC asks
21 you, they you are required to provide it to the DOC.

22 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT: So it
23 is not automatic every year. It is only upon request?

24 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: No. And what
25 it assumes, for lack of better term, a chapter is going

1 under, they say they are going to disband -- okay? --
2 the Executive Committee would be handling that issue of
3 disbanding. We would have some obligation to find out
4 where the funds went, where they didn't go because, in
5 reality, they are disbanding. There would be nobody
6 there to ask.

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT: Okay.

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: If the
9 Treasurer is going out the door, somebody needs to stop
10 them and say, did the money go to the post? Which is
11 where it should under our bylaws that we just talked
12 about. It goes back to the parent organization that was
13 sponsoring the post. To make sure those things happen
14 we, as an Executive Committee, have to have some control
15 over our members; so that would be an example of why the
16 Executive Committee would ask for those things.

17 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT: Well,
18 it just sounded like --

19 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
20 That is what it says.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT: That is
22 what I heard.

23 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:
24 That is what it says.

25 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is

1 available --

2 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

3 No. It says a copy of said books shall be given to the
4 American Legion Department of California Secretary not
5 later than thirty days prior to the opening of the
6 annual American Legion Riders department convention,
7 yes.

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 716 DELEGATE PROFFITT: That's
9 a fact.

10 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

11 Yes.

12 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: It is just
13 a report.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: It is still just
15 a report.

16 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

17 It is just a report.

18 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All you do is
19 generate a report and give it to the Secretary.

20 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

21 It is basically the same thing that the posts have to do
22 ever year.

23 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: Examination of books.

24 ALR DOC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BART:

25 The exact same thing the posts have to do is what they

1 are doing with the Riders; so it is -- the basic
2 language comes out of what the posts have to do.

3 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yeah.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Dan Dale.

5 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: Dan Dale,
6 delegate to the convention, the Area 6 VP, and the
7 writer of that resolution.

8 And I do have my Kevlar vest on.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Go ahead and
10 comment, sir.

11 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: The reason
12 for this is that as I have been out to the different
13 chapters I have found that many people -- many chapters
14 put on wonderful events, receive a lot of donations
15 because they -- of the tax-exempt status, which is the
16 post tax-exempt status. A month or two later somebody
17 says, oh, I have got \$500 in my pocket, and we can
18 donate this to something. Or they are using it for
19 meals so that they are able to entice members to come to
20 the chapter meetings.

21 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: All in
22 violation of our status.

23 ALR DOC AREA 6 VICE PRESIDENT DALE: I have
24 tried to put a stop to those.

25 The tax-exempt status is the post status, and

1 they are required to report the income of its programs;
2 so this is mandating that each chapter report their
3 income to the post each year. That may be as simple as
4 your checkbook register. It doesn't have to be
5 something fancy to go before a full audit of a CPA. It
6 may be some sort of a document that you had generated.

7 The reporting of the nonfinancial actions would
8 be we put on a Poker run; so if there is nothing in your
9 checking account showing that you put on a Poker run and
10 brought in \$60,000 or a golf tournament, \$60,000, this
11 would be a huge tax liability to the post -- financial
12 and nonfinancial reports back to the post and just
13 a copy of that at the end of the year coming into the
14 DOC.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. Thank you,
16 sir.

17 Last comment.

18 ALR DOC ASSISTANT PARLIAMENTARIAN CALVERT:
19 Mr. President, Peter Calvert, District 28, appointed
20 delegate to this convention.

21 I also teach accounting, and I have a specific
22 course on accounting for nonprofits. And inside part of
23 that is that the -- the nonprofits have a fiduciary
24 responsibility. And I teach in that class that the
25 things that are being asked in here are exactly what

1 many small nonprofit agencies have to do specifically so
2 that they can avoid the cost of having what is called an
3 audit.

4 But the most important thing for the membership
5 here to understand is what this resolution will do is
6 bring clarity and responsibility of the -- whoever it is
7 who is in charge of the finances to the membership
8 because this represents the funds that the members have
9 contributed into the general by whatever their actions
10 are.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

12 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Call for the
13 question.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I hope everybody is
15 clear on what we are going to vote on.

16 All in favor of said motion signify by saying
17 aye.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Nay.

21 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: The ayes have it.

22 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Stand them up.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All in favor of said
24 motion please stand. Take a stretch while you are up.

25 Please be seated.

1 All opposed, please stand.

2 The motion carries. The resolution passes.

3 Now we are on number seven.

4 Hang on just a minute before you start
5 speaking. In order for us to change the order of how we
6 do things here it has to come from the floor.

7 Am I correct?

8 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Yes. Correct.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Because we are on
10 number seven, and we haven't even started talking about
11 it yet, and looking at the time and feeling the pangs of
12 hunger that we do have --

13 Thank you.

14 ALR DOC SECRETARY WEBER: We can recess and
15 take care of it in the morning.

16 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: We can recess.

17 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: We can take the --
18 take up the rest of the resolutions in the morning, go
19 straight to nominations, but that would have to come
20 from the body.

21 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE BRANSON: Comrade
22 President.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes.

24 ALR DOC DISTRICT 9 DELEGATE BRANSON:

25 Fred Branson, District 9.

1 I would like to make a motion to postpone
2 seven, eight, and nine -- table until tomorrow proposals
3 seven, eight, and nine and move to the nominations of
4 officers now.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I have a motion on
6 the floor.

7 Is there a second?

8 ALR DOC CHAPTER 119 DELEGATE MUETZ:
9 Mike Muetz, Chapter 119, a delegate to this convention.

10 I second the motion.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. We have
12 a motion and a second to save this -- to table the
13 seven, eight, and nine until tomorrow morning.

14 Any discussion?

15 (No response.)

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I hear the stomachs
17 growling.

18 All in favor of said motion signify by saying
19 aye.

20 AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Aye.

21 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Opposed?

22 AUDIENCE MEMBER: No.

23 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Motion passes.

24

25 ///

1 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EXECUTIVE OFFICE - PART I

2

3 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: All right. So we
4 will move on to nominations of candidates for executive
5 offices; that would be President and Vice President and
6 Sergeant-at-Arms. The floor is open for nominations for
7 President.

8 Is there -- are there any nominations for
9 President?

10 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: Comrade
11 Commander, Brad Ring, Chapter 48 President.

12 I nominate -- and I'll say it right --
13 Mr. James Adames for President.

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: You still didn't say
15 it right.

16 Would you please say that again?

17 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: I would like
18 to nominate Mr. James Adames for President.

19 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank
20 you.

21 ALR DOC CHAPTER 48 DELEGATE RING: You're
22 welcome.

23 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT ADAMES: And
24 I accept.

25 AUDIENCE MEMBER: How much did you pay?

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: I didn't pay him
2 anything.

3 Are there any other nominations for President?

4 ALR DOC JUDGE ADVOCATE STOVER: Say it three
5 times.

6 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Are there any other
7 nominations for President? Are there any other
8 nominations for President?

9 (No response.)

10 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Nominations are
11 closed. And I don't know why I said yes, but I did, and
12 I will do it.

13 (Applause.)

14 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Thank you.

15 All right. Let's move on. Are there any
16 nominations for Vice President? Are there any
17 nominations for Vice President?

18 ALR DOC DISTRICT 10 DELEGATE NETTLES:
19 Mike Nettles, District 10, a delegate of this
20 convention.

21 I'd like to nominate Chris Coleman for the vice
22 presidency.

23 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN:
24 Just think of camping equipment.

25 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Chris Coleman, do

1 you accept the nomination for Vice President?

2 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN:

3 -- Vice President? I accept the nomination for
4 Vice President.

5 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Any other
6 nominations for Vice President?

7 ALR DOC CHAPTER 852 DELEGATE PHILLIPS: Yes,
8 sir. Leonard Phillips, Chapter 852, a delegate to this
9 convention.

10 I would like to Mick Sobczak as Vice President.

11 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Mick, do you accept
12 the nomination for Vice President?

13 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK:
14 I do.

15 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: He accepts.

16 Excuse me. Are there any other nominations for
17 Vice President? Are there any other nominations for
18 Vice President? Are there any other nominations for
19 Vice President?

20 (No response.)

21 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: Point of order
22 and clarification.

23 You accepted your position as Area 5?

24 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT SOBCZAK:

25 I was elected for the position of Area 5. I do not have

1 to make a decision, depending on which election -- I'm
2 elected to until close of business tomorrow.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER: That's true.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: That's true.

5 ALR DOC VICE PRESIDENT COLEMAN: I just wanted
6 to make sure.

7 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Nominations are
8 closed for Vice President.

9 Are there any nominations for Sergeant-at-Arms?
10 And you have really big shoes to fill and a big hat.
11 Are there any nominations for Sergeant-at-Arms? And
12 I see our current one approaching.

13 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can't quit now.

14 ALR DOC SERGEANT-AT-ARMS PATRICIO:
15 Paul Patricio, delegate to this convention, state
16 Sergeant-at-Arms.

17 I nominate Steve Storey, Chapter 460, for
18 Sergeant-at-Arms.

19 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Steve Storey, where
20 are you? Do you accept?

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Stand up.

22 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR SERGEANT-AT-ARMS STOREY:
23 I do.

24 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: How do you follow
25 that?

1 Thank you for accepting.

2 Are there any other nominations for

3 Sergeant-at-Arms? Are there --

4 Dave.

5 ALR DOC CHAPTER 3 DELEGATE RITTER:

6 Dave Ritter, Chapter 3, duly elected delegate to this

7 convention.

8 I nominate Robert Stover for sergeant of arms.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Robert Stover, do
10 you accept?

11 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Point
12 of order.

13 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Yes.

14 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: There
15 is no such position as sergeant of arms.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Sergeant-at-Arms.

17 Smokey, do you accept?

18 ALR DOC CANDIDATE FOR SERGEANT-AT-ARMS STOVER:

19 I do.

20 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Smokey accepts.

21 Are there any other nominations for

22 Sergeant-at-Arms? Are there any other nominations for

23 Sergeant-at-Arms? Are there any other nominations for

24 Sergeant-at-Arms?

25 (No response.)

1 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Nominations for
2 Sergeant-at-Arms is closed until tomorrow.

3 And just for clarification, in case -- you do
4 get one more chance to vote and nominate for people for
5 elected office tomorrow.

6

7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

8

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: J.D., do you have
10 any other announcements?

11 Hey, happy hour, in my opinion, is just getting
12 ready to start.

13 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: I'm
14 sorry. Happy hour was over half an hour ago. Dinner is
15 halfway done.

16 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Is it ready?

17 ALR DOC AREA 3 VICE PRESIDENT BENNETT: Dinner
18 hopefully is ready. I haven't been out there, but they
19 have -- they were about halfway when we started in the
20 resolutions. They should be done.

21 My blue star moms who will be serving you
22 tonight are here. I have been communicating with them.
23 Take care of your blue star moms if you are going to be
24 in there. They will be serving you tonight. And it
25 will be over here in the Independence room. Drinks and

1 dinner will be served as soon as you get in there. And
2 the band will start playing, I am told, at 7:00 o'clock.

3 Thank you.

4 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Okay. All right.
5 Let's bring this beast to a close for tonight, and then
6 we'll pick it up again tomorrow morning with seven,
7 eight, and nine. At 9:00 o'clock. 9:00 o'clock.

8 Uncover, and please prepare for the
9 benediction.

10

11

BENEDICTION

12

13 ALR DOC CHAPLAIN ESTRADA: Let us pray.

14 Heavenly Father, as we end this first day of
15 our convention we are grateful for the privilege of
16 meeting together to do the work of this great
17 organization. As we prepare to recess, we reflect on
18 the issues that we have addressed and give thanks for
19 Your guidance and pray that what we have done is for the
20 best -- is the best in leading our organization forward.

21 It is also fitting that we reflect on those who
22 have served this country in times of peace and war. We
23 ask that You guide and protect our servicemen and women
24 as they serve our nation. Give strength and peace to
25 them and their families.

1 We recognize that this is a fitting time to
2 also remember our members who are suffering illness or
3 loss that they may be remembered and that they find
4 comfort in their time of difficulty and sorrow. Keep us
5 in Your shadow and keep us safe and away from harm until
6 we meet again.

7 In Your name we pray, amen.

8 ALL PRESENT: Amen.

9 ALR DOC PRESIDENT ADAMES: Recover.

10 First of all, let me thank you for sitting
11 there that long. Truly, I don't know about you, but
12 I get to stand here for most of it. Thank you.

13 We meet again at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.
14 We are in recess -- oh, yeah. We are in recess.

15

16 ADJOURNMENT

17

18 (The American Legion Riders Department of
19 California Convention was adjourned
20 was adjourned at 6:35 p.m., to be reconvened on
21 Sunday, April 19, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.)

22

23

24

25

1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
2 COUNTY OF KERN) ss.
3
4

5 I, B. Suzanne Hull, a Certified Shorthand
6 Reporter in the State of California, holding Certificate
7 Number 13495, do hereby certify that the American Legion
8 Riders Department of California Convention, Volume I,
9 was taken Saturday, April 18, 2015, at the time and
10 place set forth on the first page hereof.

11 That upon the taking of the meeting, the words
12 of the American Legion Riders Department of California
13 Convention members were written down by me in stenotypy
14 and thereafter transcribed by computer under my
15 supervision; that the foregoing is a true and correct
16 transcript of the oratory given by the American Legion
17 Riders Department of California Convention members.

18 I further certify that I am neither counsel for
19 nor in any way related to any party to said meeting, nor
20 in any way interested in the result or outcome thereof.

21 Dated this 18th day of April, 2015, at
22 Bakersfield, California.

23

24

B. Suzanne Hull, CSR No. 13495

25