## American Legion Horace Orr Post 29 Marietta, Georgia 30060

SUBJECT: CODE OF CONDUCT 1 Oct 2023

- 1. The American Legion, Horace Orr Post 29 serves our community, state, and nation through the principles laid out in the Aims and Purposes of the American Legion's four Pillars: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R), Children and Youth (C&Y), Americanism, and National Security.
- 2. Our Post is an independent organization that is part of the association called The American Legion. Our Post has no affiliation with, and has no obligation to associate with, any other organization, and operates independently to meet our goals.
- 3. The Chain of Command begins with the Post Commander and will not be broken. Doing so undermines the authority of the Commander and is considered disloyalty and conduct unbecoming a Legionnaire.
- 4. Only the Post Commander speaks on behalf of the Post unless the Commander delegates that authority to another person. No member may commit our Post to support any activity or organization without the expressed permission of the Commander or Executive Board.
- 5. All Post members publicly represent Post 29 and should do so in a professional manner.
- 6. All disputes or issues concerning Post management or affairs shall remain within the Post. A member who has an issue or dispute concerning Post business shall present the issue or dispute to the Post Executive Board or a Member-at-Large in writing. No outside individual shall be contacted without first giving the Executive Board the opportunity to address an issue or dispute. Officers of District 5 and the Department of Georgia work for us, not the other way around, and they have no authority to intervene in our internal affairs. Requests for their support or involvement fall solely to the Post Commander.
- 7. Our Post chooses which programs, organizations, and events we support, and are not compelled to support other Posts or organizations. Recommendations for approval to support other organizations are decided by the Executive Board, which gives priority to those organizations that reciprocate with their support.
- 8. All agenda items to be presented at the general membership meeting are discussed at the Executive Board Meeting prior to the general membership meeting. Requests for inclusion of agenda items shall be given to the Post Commander or Post Adjutant, or Member-at-Large prior to the E-Board Meeting.
- 9. Communication with Post members is a privilege and is restricted to official Post business. Members will not be contacted without first obtaining their permission to do so. Requests for dissemination of information shall be made through the Post Adjutant or Commander, and any exceptions to that shall be at the direction of the Executive Board.

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10. The Post actively uses social networking to communicate with our members and the outside world. There is no expectation of privacy on Post members' personal social networking sites. Slander, defamation, and disparaging remarks aimed at the Post, or our members is considered conduct unbecoming a Legionnaire.

- 11. American Legion Post 29 Code of Conduct describes the principles of good behavior expected of all members. Membership is defined as Legionnaires and Sons of the American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, American Legion Riders and approved guests. Every member is expected to understand and abide by the Code of Conduct. By renewing membership, members agree to abide by the principles of good behavior described therein and understand that violation of any part of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action as allowed under the by-laws of the Post.
- 12. Guiding Principles underlying the Code of Conduct include Honesty, Integrity, Dignity, Respect, and Responsibility.
- a. Members represent the Post their behavior, inside or outside the Post, reflects upon Legion Family at all levels.
- b. Members agree to adhere to the highest ethical standards to earn and protect the public's trust in carrying out the American Legion mission.
  - c. Members agree to be good stewards of Post resources.
  - d. Members will conduct themselves with dignity, display good manners, and good morals.
- e. Members will respect the dignity of all people. Bullying, physical, mental, or psychological abuse of any person will not be tolerated.
- f. Members will demonstrate high regard for the American Legion mission, rendering quality service to veterans, our military, their families, the community, and The Legion Family at all levels.
- g. Racism, sexism, ageism, and religious discrimination will not be tolerated and members will be kind, considerate, and welcoming to all.
- h. Members will be a good citizen and a good neighbor by obeying local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
  - i. Members will abide by all governing documents of the American Legion and Post 29.
- j. Members will respect the property of the Post and The Legion Family, to including the property of volunteers and will not abuse nor tolerate the abuse of property.

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k. Members will not abuse or tolerate the abuse of alcohol (Drink responsibly and watch over your comrades).

- 1. Members will not use illegal drugs or tolerate the use of illegal drugs on Post property.
- m. Members will honor and fulfill commitments and financial obligations to the Post in a timely manner.
  - n. Members will be honest, helpful, and not undermine others.
- o. Members will challenge each other to abide by this Code and appropriately address those who violated the Post Code of Conduct in a timely manner.
- 14. Members may file a complaint or report of misconduct to the Executive Committee. These should be filed within 48 hours of the incident, placed in a sealed envelope, and submitted in person to a member of the Executive Committee.
- 15. Point of contact for this document is the undersigned. Questions and comments can be directed to: rick.squeri@post29marietta.org

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Enrico J. Squeri

Sergeant-at-Arms