



**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF
LIVONIA CHAPTER 114
LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150**

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this Chapter shall be Livonia Chapter 114, Disabled American Veterans.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of this Chapter is to build better lives for all of our nation's disabled veterans and their families. Our obligation to this purpose is to support the programs of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) as provided in the National Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations of the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this Chapter shall conform to the requirements as set forth in Article 3 of the National By-Laws. There shall be no associate, special, or honorary membership in this Chapter.

ARTICLE IV – ADMINISTRATION

Section 1: The administrative interaction of this Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Executive Committee in emergencies only. All other actions of this Chapter Executive Committee must be ratified by a majority vote of those Chapter members in good standing present and voting at the next regular scheduled Chapter General Meeting. The Chapter Executive Committee will recommend courses of action to the Chapter Members.

Section 2: The Chapter Executive Committee shall consist of the Past Commander as Chairman, alternate being the Commander and/or Senior Vice Commander, Adjutant, 1st Junior Vice Commander, Treasurer, and the Chaplain, all five (5) Trustees, Sergeant of Arms, and Chapter Service Officers.

Section 3: Election of the Chapter officers shall take place annually and will consist of the following: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, 1st Junior Vice Commander, Treasurer, and the Chaplain. Elected Chapter officers shall be guided in their duties by the Disabled American Veterans Chapter Officers Guide as it pertains to each elected and appointed Chapter officer's position. No one person shall hold more than one elected position at any given time.

Section 4: To allow a sitting Chapter Commander to run for multiple terms of office under the following conditions; the term shall not exceed a single year. A second-year term and a third-year term may be allowed at the discretion of Chapter membership through re-election prior to the annual state convention with no return to office after the third term. In the event of a vacancy of the office of Chapter Commander, a person may serve the unexpired term of office and remain eligible for election to two (2) additional terms as Chapter Commander.

ARTICLE IV – ADMINISTRATION (CONTINUED)

Section 5: Any Chapter member, in good standing, who has served as Chapter Commander for three consecutive years is eligible to pursue the Commander position after two (2) years of not serving as Commander.

Section 6: The Chapter shall have five (5) Trustees for a term of two (2) years each. Three Trustees to be elected on the even year.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE

The executive power of this Chapter shall be vested in the Chapter Commander. At any given time, if the Chapter Commander is unable to execute their duties, the next highest elected officer present shall assume the executive powers of this Chapter's duties.

ARTICLE VI – AUXILIARY

This Chapter recognizes a DAV Auxiliary (DAVA), subject to such supervision as conforms to the National By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any Chapter meeting by a vote of two-thirds of those Chapter members in good standing, present, and voting. This Constitution is subject to approval of the Department and National Judge Advocate, and effective only after the date of said approval and provided that any such amendment is read at two (2) consecutive meetings and that all Chapter members were notified of the proposed change(s) prior to each of the two (2) meetings.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1 – ORGANIZATION

Section 1: This Chapter recognizes the National Organization known as Disabled American Veterans, incorporated by Act of Congress, affirms its allegiance, subordination to the National Organization, its Constitution, By-Laws, all rules, mandates, and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto. Upon dissolution of this Chapter, all assets remaining after the payment of its debts shall be distributed as provided in Article 6, Section 6.4. Paragraph 5 and 6 of the National By-Laws.

Section 2: The governing body of this Chapter shall be the Chapter in session, except as otherwise provided for in this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3: Minutes of all meetings of this Chapter, including the Chapter Executive Committee, shall be recorded and maintained by the Chapter Commander appointed Adjutant, and made available for inspection by any Chapter member in good standing.

ARTICLE 2 – CHARTER

The Charter of this Chapter, as issued by the National Executive Committee, is its authority to function and shall be displayed within the Chapter meeting location at all times.

ARTICLE 3 – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Chapter Executive Committee shall conform to Article IV, Sections 1 and 2 of this Constitution.

Section 2: The Executive Committee Chairperson is the Past Commander. A majority of the Chapter Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3: Meetings of the Chapter Executive Committee will be called by the Chapter Commander, or at the request of a majority of its members, made in writing to the Chapter Commander.

Section 4: Chapter members in good standing may attend the Chapter Executive Committee meetings, without the right to vote. Non-Executive Committee Members must raise their hands and be recognized by the Executive Committee Chairperson in order to speak at a meeting.

ARTICLE 4 – OFFICERS

Chapter Officers shall conform to the requirements as set forth in Article 9, of the National By-Laws, Article IV of the Department of Michigan, Sections 4.2a and 4.2b, and Article IV, Sections 3, 4, and 5 of this Chapters Constitution. Chapter Officers shall be guided by the most recent edition of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter Officer Guidebook.

ARTICLE 5 – QUALIFICATIONS

Any person who is a member in good standing of this Chapter shall be eligible to serve in any elective or appointive office in this Chapter, except where provided in this Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE 6 - TENURE OF OFFICE

Section 1: The Officers of this Chapter shall conform to the requirements as set forth in Article 9, Section 9.2 of the National By-Laws and Article IV, Sections 4.2, 4.2a, and 4.2b of the Department of Michigan By-Laws and as set forth in this Chapters Constitution Article IV, Sections 4 and 5.

Section 2: Unexcused absences of any Chapter officer for three (3) consecutive General Membership meetings may be grounds for removal by the Chapter Commander and by a majority vote of those Chapter members in good standing present and voting. The Chapter Commander is empowered to appoint a Chapter member in good standing to serve the unexpired term, upon approval of the Chapter membership.

Section 3: In the event the Commander of this Chapter is unable to execute the duties of their elected office or the office is vacated for any reason, the next highest elected Chapter officer present will assume the duties and executive powers of this Chapter until which time the elected Chapter Commander is able to resume their duties or the next annual elections of this Chapters Officers, whichever may arrive first.

ARTICLE 7 – MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: No new applicant shall be denied Chapter membership if they meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in National By-Laws.

Section 2: Only Chapter members in good standing are eligible to vote on any motion or election.

ARTICLE 7 – MEMBERSHIP (Continued)

Section 3: Members of another Chapter may secure a transfer of membership to this Chapter, with approval of the Chapter Membership.

ARTICLE 8 – FINANCES

Section 1: The Chapter Treasurer or any other Commander designated officer will conform to the requirements as set forth in Article 9, Section 9.3 of the National By-Laws, Article IV, Section 4.8 of the Department By-Laws and will be guided in their duties by the current edition of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter Officers Guidebook.

Section 2: The Commander (Senior Vice Commander, in absence of the Chapter Commander), Chapter Treasurer, and Adjutant shall be charged with the duties of handling normal finances in this Chapter.

Section 3: In the event the Chapter Treasurer and Adjutant are the same person; the Senior Vice Commander will also be charged with the duties of handling normal finances in this Chapter.

ARTICLE 9 – MEETINGS

Section 1: The Chapter must conduct no less than four (4) General Meetings with a quorum consisting of five (5) members in good standing, of which two (2) must be Chapter elected officers present, within a membership year.

Section 2: Robert's Rule of Order, Revised, shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and which they are not inconsistent with the National, Department, or this Chapters Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 3: All voting by the Chapter in session shall be by voice unless otherwise requested by at least five (5) Chapter members in good standing.

Section 4: Regular Chapter General Membership meeting dates, time, and location shall be determined by a majority vote of the Chapter members, in good standing in session.

Section 5: Discussion of personal grievances will not be in order on the floor unless introduced by the Grievance Committee or other committees having the authority to consider any such matter.

ARTICLE 10 – COMMITTEES

Section 1: All Chapter Committees will meet at the call of the Chairperson or Chapter Commander, or as otherwise provided in the National, Department, or this Chapters Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2: Committees shall consist of an odd number of Chapter members in good standing and shall consist of not less than three (3) or no more than five (5) members, including the Chairperson. Committees shall be appointed by the Chapter Commander, with the approval of the Chapter in session, with the exception of the Chapter Commander and the Nominating Committee, in which, shall be elected by the Chapter in session. Committee members shall elect the Chairperson.

Section 3: The Chapter shall have an Audit Committee, which will be composed of Chapter Trustees, of at least three (3) members, in good standing, in the Chapter, excluding the Chapter Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Treasurer, and the Adjutant. The Audit Committee shall conduct a quarterly audit and an annual audit in accordance with the requirements of the National By-Laws.

ARTICLE 11- AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be amended at any Chapter meeting by a vote of two-thirds of those Chapter members in good standing, present, and voting.

These By-Laws are subject to approval of the Department and National Judge Advocates, and effective only after the date of said approval and provided that any such amendment is read at two consecutive meetings.

ARTICLE 12 – MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1: At any given moment in time, any of the provisions found with-in these By-Laws are or may become inconsistent with the provisions of the National Organization or the State Department Constitution and By-Laws, mandates, or regulations, as is now in force or as hereafter amended or adopted, this instrument shall be deemed amended so as to conform thereto.

Section 2: All required disciplinary actions shall be conducted in accordance with Article 16 of the National By-Laws and applicable Regulations of the National Executive Committee.

Section 3: An original copy of the Chapter Constitution and By-Laws and Chapter Policies shall be properly affixed to the back of the framed Charter to prevent its loss and in order that it may always be available for reference.

Section 4: To the extent to which any of the provisions of this Constitution and By-laws are, or may at any time become inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution and By-laws and lawful mandates, decisions and regulations of either the governing State Department or the National Organization, as now in force or as hereafter amended or adopted, this instrument shall be deemed amended as to conform thereto.

Approved after the second reading of the final document at the Chapter 114 General Meeting on the 17th day of April 2017.

Alan R. Stranyak
Commander – Print

Gary Busch
Adjutant – Print

Alan R. Stranyak Date 3/24/17 Gary Busch Date 3-24-17
Commander Signature Adjutant Signature

James R. Dempsey Date 3-26-17 Michael E. Quinn Date 5-16-17
Department Judge Advocate National Judge Advocate

I CERTIFY that the within constitution
and/or by-laws does not conflict with
those of the National Organization,
and to that extent, is approved subject
to my letter of

Date: 5-16-17
DAV National Judge Advocate