

## DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS, DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

Albert Hughes State Commander Paul Kaiser State Adjutant

May 26, 2020

Dear Chapter Commanders & Adjutants,

First, I hope this message finds you all safe, and healthy. This communication serves as a follow up to my previous memorandum earlier this month regarding chapter meetings and fundraising in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. As you are all aware, our state's "Stay at Home" orders, and restrictions on gatherings are rapidly changing, and many aspects are being relaxed.

As stated in previous communications, our Department's guidance to our Chapters regarding meetings and fundraising is that you first ensure you are abiding by all current state laws and executive orders, and are doing everything possible to keep our members and communities safe.

When legal (as determined by the State), <u>each Chapter Commander has the sole authority to determine when meetings and fundraising will commence in their respective locale</u>, and is responsible for determining the safest way to conduct these events—keep in mind our #1 priority is to keep our members safe and healthy, and any chapter who decides to hold these events is solely accountable, and potentially liable for the safety of its members.

It is also important to remember that all of our members are disabled in some capacity, and many who attend these meetings are also at an advanced age; This puts our members at significantly higher risk for developing complications with this disease than the general population, and must be at the forefront of your considerations. While the ultimate decision is yours, our department's recommendation to each Chapter is that all meetings be conducted remotely, or by alternate methods to ensure our members are as safe as possible at this time.

If any of you would like to use a conference call line to hold meetings, please reach out to myself or Michelle Kosick and we will give you access to our conference line that we use. As a reminder, DAV National will not take any derogatory action for lack of officer reports, elections, etc. until chapters are able to meet in a safe environment. Please continue to monitor state restrictions as they are rapidly evolving.

Please feel free to contact me, or your district EC if you have any additional questions, and continue to monitor our website and Facebook for any new information.

Respectfully,

Paul Kaiser State Adjutant