



THE DEPARTMENT OF TENNESSEE GENERAL BULLETIN
SEPTEMBER 2026

Guidance, Direction, Purpose; True North

National: www.legion.org

State: www.tennesseelegion.org

Boys State: www.tnboysstate.org

SAL: www.legion.org/sons

We mail monthly bulletins to only to posts with **CERTIFIED** Post Officers to the post's dues remittance mailing address. We also email the Bulletin to all post officers. Please visit on our website; www.tennesseelegion.org for current and past bulletins. Please share this information with the members of your post.

TENNESSEE AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE:

September 26 & 27, 2026, held at Department Headquarters, Application is available on the Department website in the Training and Education tab.

2026 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE: We will return on January 15, 16, and 17, 2027 to Sheraton Music City, Nashville for our annual Mid-Winter Conference. Event registration link along with a link to reserve discounted accommodations, for \$159 nightly plus tax, is available on the Department website: www.tennesseelegion.org.

DO's & DON'Ts Of GENERATIVE AI: Generative AI use of the American Legion emblem and landmark is becoming more widespread in artwork for flyers, posters, graphics and more. As outlined in the branding guidelines, (see link below) generative AI tools of any kind **may not** be used to create, recreate, upscale or otherwise alter, stylize or modify the official symbols of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion, American Legion Riders, American Legion Family, American Legion Baseball, Be the One, American Legion Boys State and Boys Nation, American Legion Auxiliary Girls State and Girls Nation, American Legion Junior Shootings Sports, charities of The American Legion and any associated sub-branding. This includes any use of the Legion marks in the visual branding of departments, districts, posts, squadrons or programs associated with any Departments, Districts, Posts or Squadrons. https://issuu.com/theath1296/docs/american_legion_emblem_branding_guidelines?fr=sNGZhmjg0MDA4NDQ

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR: To recognize a well-rounded Law Enforcement Officer, who has exceeded, above and beyond, the duty requirements expected of the position held and who exemplifies the virtues of professionalism and dedication and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service to the community, state, or Nation. Please send applications to the American Legion Department of Tennessee, 318 Donelson Pike, Nashville, TN 37214 by **January 4, 2027**.

FIRE-FIGHTER OF THE YEAR: The Firefighter of the Year Award to a firefighter who has exceeded the requirements expected of their position and has shown a distinct pattern of community service and professional achievement. The award, which considers heroic acts, will be given annually at the Department's annual convention. Nominees must be an active, full-time, paid, or volunteer who is a U.S. citizen assigned to a municipal, city, or county fire department. Please send applications to the American Legion Department of Tennessee, 318 Donelson Pike, Nashville, TN 37214 by **January 4, 2027**.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS OF THE

YEAR: The Emergency Medical Technician Award to an EMT who has exceeded the requirements expected of their position and has shown a distinct pattern of community service and professional achievement. The award, which considers heroic acts, will be given annually at the Department's annual convention. Please send applications to Department Headquarters by **January 4, 2027**.

EMPLOYMENT AWARDS: The Department annually presents awards at the Department Convention to honor employers who hire veterans, disabled veterans, and older workers. We also recognize those who help veterans find employment. The awards include:

- Veteran Employer of the Year – 3 categories (Small, Medium, and Large)
- Employer of the Disabled Veterans Award
- Employer of Older Workers Award
- Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER) of the Year
- Outstanding Disabled Veteran Outreach Program (DVOP) Specialist of the Year
- Outstanding Employment Service Office of the Year

Nomination forms for each award are available on the Department website. Please include no more than two typed narrative pages as well as the official nomination form. Nominations are due **January 4, 2027**.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES: members shall pay for their renewals by **October 20**, annually. The Legion membership cycle is from January 1 to December 31. Department and National dues shall be paid for the full year, irrespective of the month the member may have joined. Membership dues collected at a local Post include Department and National dues.

JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM: Club registration opens on September 1, 2026. The American Legion's Junior 3-Position Air Rifle Tournament provides American Legion-affiliated youth competitors an opportunity to evaluate their marksmanship skills in competition with other junior competitors throughout the nation. The individual tournament has two phases of competition; the first round is the state championships, and the second round is qualification for national championships. For more information visit www.legion.org/jssp-club-registration. Questions? Contact Don Ward at 907-957-1897 or heraclitus762@yahoo.com

EARLY BIRD MEMBERSHIP TARGET DATE:

September 10, 2026, kicks off the Early Bird Membership Target Date. **Posts are expected to reach 50% of their post Membership Goals** for the year.

NATIONAL HISTORY CONTEST AND SHOWCASE:

Posts, the time is now to start working on your 2027 Post Digital Showcase! Please use the following guide: [2026 Contest and Showcase Information · 2026 History Contest and Showcase · National History Contest and Showcase](#) Department will be able to submit:

- 1 One-Year digital Department history for contest (these entries will be judged and showcased on the online exhibit)
 - 1 One-Year hard-copy Post history for showcase (entries will be showcased at the annual National Convention)
 - 1 One-Year digital Post history for showcase (these entries will be showcased on the online exhibit).
- Entries in the department digital contest should consist of one PDF file not to exceed 100MB and should be submitted digitally by Aug. 1 annually. Post submissions for the national showcase (digital and hard copy) need to be received by the national library no later than August 1, annually.

LEGIONCARE - Enrollments after January 1, 2015, anyone enrolled in LegionCare will be covered for as long as they maintain their membership in The American Legion. This new “one and done” approach will save you from needing to re-enroll every 5 years. The LegionCare program covers you for \$1,000 of AD&D coverage plus provide the added benefit of up to \$5,000 if the accidental loss occurs when on “official Legion business.” LegionCare is available to all members of the Legion Family including the American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion members 18 years and older. Visit www.thelit.com or call 1-800-235-6943 to enroll.

NEW POST and Squadrons: Post 296, Trenton, Trenton, Tennessee. Squadron 111, Flintville and Squadron 163 Crossville.

POST ADJUTANTS: Please DO NOT mail in the Officers’ Notification form packaged with membership cards.

IS YOUR POST INCORPORATED, IF SO WAS A SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER ISSUED?

When a post becomes incorporated, it is necessary to apply for a supplemental charter. When a post incorporates and changes its name, the change is enough for it to be considered by the government as a new entity, thereby requiring an Employer Identification Number (EIN). The incorporation of a post modifies the information sent in on the earlier inclusion letter reporting the post name to the national organization. The legal name of the post will appear on the incorporation papers or corporate charter with the state in which it is located. A change in the name, even just adding “Inc.,” will be reported to the IRS. The national organization must maintain the correct, legal, and accurate post name exactly as it appears on the corporate charter from the state on this report to the IRS. Send changes to National Headquarters through the Department so the IRS records will remain up-to-date, and the post can avoid IRS issues.

POSTS WITH UNCERTIFIED POST OFFICERS: Posts 9 Byrdstown; 18, Celina; 57 Carthage; 96 Copperhill; 127, Hohenwald; 156, Brentwood; 202, Gatlinburg; 232, Harriman; 292, Somerville; and 294, Rutledge.

MISSING POST DATA REPORTS: Posts 4, Livingston; 15, Lebanon; 18, Celina; 20 Union City; 25 Erwin; 42 Fayetteville; 50, Rockwood; 56, Hartsville; 62 So. Pittsburg; 66, Pikeville; 86, Ripley; 91, Old Hickory; 111, Flintville; 128, Decaturville; 156, Brentwood; 157 Hendersonville; 162 Selmer; 176, Linden; 177 Murfreesboro; 198 Middleton; 202, Gatlinburg; 208 McMinnville; 237, Harriman; 237, Covington; 282 Brownsville; 292, Somerville and 294, Rutledge.

DEPARTMENT-LEVEL OFFICERS, ELECTED, OR APPOINTED: shall, within 30 days of election or appointment, complete at a minimum, American Legion Education Institute (ALEI) Basic Training. Once completed, a copy of the course certification will be forwarded to the Department Adjutant per Department Constitution Article VII, Section 11.

SEPTEMBER 2026 CALENDAR

- 1: Junior Shooting Sports Registration Opens
- 7: Labor Day (HQ offices closed)
- 10: 50% Membership Target Date
- 11: Patriot Day
- 14-20: Constitution Week
- 18: US Air Force Birthday
- 19: POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 20-26: Employ Older Workers Week
- 26-27: Tennessee Legion College, Department Headquarters

OCTOBER 2026 CALENDAR

- 5-8: Department Commanders and Adjutant National Meetings (Fall Meetings)
- 12: Columbus Day (HQ offices closed)
- 13-18 *National Commander’s Visit (subject to change), he will tour the Eastern Division*
- 14: 55% Membership Target Date

OCTOBER 2026 CALENDAR CONT.

- 15: Third District Meeting
- 16: Second District Meeting
- 17: First District Meeting
- 22: Eighth District Meeting
- 23: Ninth District Meeting
- 24: Tenth District Meeting
- 31: Halloween

NOVEMBER 2026 CALENDAR

- 1: Fall Back - Standard Time, 2 am
- 6: Fifth District Meeting
- 10: Marine Corps Birthday
- 11: Veteran’s Day (Department HQ offices closed)
- 12: 65% Membership Target Date
- 13: Fourth District Meeting
- 14: Sixth District Meeting
- 16-21: National American Legion College
- 26-27: Thanksgiving (Department HQ offices closed)