

# Amvets National Ladies Auxiliary



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## Memorandum

**Date:** April 16, 2020  
**Subject:** 2020 Local Elections/Department Conventions

Fellow AMVETS Auxiliary members:

In these difficult, unprecedented times, our National Constitution and Bylaws (CBL) do not fully address what we as a Nation and as an organization are now facing. The following is official guidance from National President Dee Baggett.

Unfortunately, reality now is that some or maybe even all Departments will not be able to safely or legally hold a proper statewide convention in 2020. Department elections may only be held at a proper convention. Other business, including adoption of amendments, resolutions and convention referrals also may only be conducted at a proper convention with a quorum. Per the CBL, what constitutes a quorum is as defined in the Department convention rules.

### Department Elections

The Auxiliary CBL states Department elections and officer installations must be completed by June 30. Given the extraordinary circumstances, based on the decision by AMVETS National Commander Jan Brown, President Baggett has also extended that deadline to August 1. Department elections may not be held by phone, email or any other electronic means. **If your Department is unable to hold a convention by August 1, the current and appointed Auxiliary officers should remain in office until a proper convention and election is held in the normal timeframe in 2021.**

If a current officer's term is extended because a convention cannot be held but that officer is unable to continue serving for the additional year for personal reasons, the vacancy and resulting vacancies should be filled as prescribed in the CBL.

### Local Elections

Meeting postponements may/will delay elections. Right now, government orders are through the beginning of May. If they are extended, they will affect elections on the Local level. If these orders affect May elections, all existing officers will remain in place until elections can be legally held. If your Department is having a convention on or before August 1, the Local President shall call for a special meeting to hold annual nominations and elections. If a

special meeting is not held by August 1, then all officers shall remain in office until the 2021 annual meeting. Please refer any questions to your Department.

### **CBL Amendments**

Amendments, resolutions or Convention referrals to Department CBLs may not be adopted in 2020 if the Department does not hold a proper convention.

### **Expiration**

***The above provisions and exceptions to the normal rules are for the 2020-2021 year only.***

### **National Convention Update**

National Commander Brown, along with representatives from the National Ladies Auxiliary, National Sons of AMVETS and National Headquarters staff, are in close communications with the convention center and hotels in Springfield, Illinois, where our National Convention is slated to take place in August of this year. The aim remains to hold the National Convention as scheduled, but it is too early to know if that will be possible. A decision on that does not need to be made until July 1. All notifications regarding National Convention will come from Auxiliary National Executive Director Carol King.

Please stay well and continue to be safe. God bless America.