



Irvin Flores
Commander 2022 - 2023
The Elegant 18th District

August



Dear Elegant 18th District,

I would like to start off by saying Thank You Very Much for those who showed up to the 18th District Installation of Officers Ceremony! You all made it Very Special!

And I understand that some members of the Elegant 18th couldn't make it, however I Thank You for all Your support!

There is Always a Beginning to Everything!

When a professional marathon runner decides to run from New York to California, he starts by giving that first step! Then after many miles he is able to see that vast Ocean (Pacific Ocean)! The marathon runner goes north and sees those big trees that are Redwoods (Sequoias)! Those trees grow big, tall and wide, so wide that it takes several people holding hands to be able to surround the tree! These trees are 200 or 300 years old! But how did it start, with a single seed hundreds of years ago!

Ladies and Gentlemen, like I said before, we are at the Beginning of the American Legion Year! There is a Beginnings to Everything!

A famous Doctor by the name of Ellen Langer once said:
"Boredom can be just another construct of the mind.... There is always something new to notice"

What this means to me is that we all need to look at the details and let's not be complacent! Right off the bat, let's work on membership, turning in all the reports before the timelines and accomplishing All Posts Goals! We are at the beginning, let's start with Great Momentum! We Are One Team!

Thank You!

Irvin Flores-18th District
Commander
626 235 4138 / irvin201010@gmail.com





Hello Legion Family,

What we do today as Legionnaires doesn't amount to a hill of beans unless we have all members current with their dues and unless we recruit new members to join our ranks. In short, our future as an organization will be bleak and we will not be setting up our successors with the best possible chance to perpetuate Legion ideals. Also, it is imperative that we set our sights on younger veterans and encourage them to join. Youth stands as the lifeblood of the American Legion and we all need to make a conscientious effort to recruit younger veterans. Coming up this fall, I will be meeting with the First Vice Commanders of each Post in the 18th District. The intent of our meeting will be to collaborate and share "best practices" in recruiting older and younger veterans alike. If you have any ideas with respect to increasing our Legion membership, please contact me or your Post's 1st Vice Commander so that your input is heard and if possible, put into play.

Please share the information below with your Post by emailing it to your members, adding it to you Post's website and/or by posting it in your Hall or Canteen.

The best ways to renew your membership or to join the American Legion are:

1. Call Department at **(559) 875-8387** to renew or join over the phone with a credit or debit card
2. Pay online with a credit or debit card at:

<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Renew>

Semper Fidelis

Neil La Sala-First Vice Commander
American Legion District 18 - Department of California
626 833 8493 / ntlasala@att.net



**From the desk of 2nd Vice,
Sam Cafiero**

Hello Legion Family,



Welcome to the start of the American Legion year which stars July 1st & is to June 30 the following year. I am excited for this year. On top of the 50-50 opportunity drawings, we will have special raffles at our general meeting on 3rd Friday of each month. Something different at every meeting. During these next couple of general meetings, we will be going over creative and fun ways to connect and support our Legion posts.

Please support our American Legion programs such as Oratorical, Boys State, and various programs with our fund raising. We have A beautiful American Legion pullover jacket and Official Elegant 18th District lapel pin. Support our veteran programs with the fitting pullover for \$40. Your support goes a long way. Sizes Small to 3XL. Payment methods are check payable to American Legion District 18, and cash. Come to our District general meeting on the 3rd Friday of the month.

I would like to get your thoughts on having a chili cook-off, Burger bow-down, or Corn hole and Corn on the Cobb fund raiser event. Something that can interest members of the American Legion family. Bring us together.

Semper Fi,
Samuel Cafiero
Elegant 18 District
2nd Vice Commander



Elegant 18th District

Department of California

P. O. Box 5256

El Monte, CA 91734



2022 - 2023 Meeting Schedule

All District Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. / Dinner starts @ 6:00 p.m.

Post Commanders, Post Vice Commanders & Adjutants, it is your duty to Represent your Post Membership at the District Meetings, You are the Legal Representative of your Post!

REPORTS – REPORTS – REPORTS

Just an official reminder, Post Commanders, Adjutants, Post Chairpersons, Service Officer, Chaplain; it is your duty to submit reports to District and Department, such as the Post Chaplain, Adjutants, Post Data, Delegate list & dues, Certification of Officers, CPR, Financial Audit.



08/08/2022

The E-Board Meeting will be @ Temple City Post 279 **7:30 p.m.**
(626) 309-1511

08/19/2022

District Meeting @ Post-279 Temple City 7:30 p.m.
Dinner at 6:00 p.m. 9522 Las Tunas Dr. "Kindly R.S.V.P. for dinner

"Be Safe", Stay Healthy' practice buddy check call one of your Post Veterans, How are they doing ???



Elegant 18th District Officers



Scott Sinclair
Dist. Adjutant



Ted Fife
Dist. Finance



Gil Ramos
Chaplain



Medellin Garcia
Sgt.-At-Arms



Wayne Lunde
Historian



Manny Vital
Judge Advocate



JR Duarte
Service Officer

District 18 Executive Board



Allen Rodriguez P-78



Al Mora P-280



Ed Barlow P-247



Ritchie Santos P-508



JR Duarte P-10



Area 6



Dept. Sgt.-At-Arms

(Not pictured) Joe Mercier P-475 / Joe Paczkowski P-30 / Dave Mushinski P-78

Vice Cmdr. JR Duarte Manny Vital

FIRST, WHAT IS A FIDELITY BOND?



There are several types of "bonds", and this article is about the fidelity bond every post should have. Many people think of a fidelity bond as crime insurance that protects your post against financial loss caused by dishonest officers. Starting July 1, 2022, the Department will no longer be providing this coverage for a variety of reasons. Your Post is currently

covered until that date under the previous bylaws. This is because the payment was required before the new Department Bylaws went into effect.

WHY WILL YOU NEED A FIDELITY BOND?

At the 2021 Department Convention, a number of changes to the Bylaws were approved. Among the changes was the section pertaining to posts being bonded. Which now reads:

2021 DEPARTMENT BYLAWS, ARTICLE 5 – POSTS

"Article V, Section 9. The Post Finance Officer and any officers and/or positions charged by the Post Bylaws with the responsibility of handling Post funds should be bonded under a blanket bond."

The new Bylaws wording "should be bonded", in essence, makes having a fidelity bond for your post an option. Not many post leaders are aware of this change in the department bylaws and how it requires posts to purchase a fidelity bond on their own. This may be a good topic to discuss with your Post Executive Committee.

Post with smaller monetary assets will need less while those with more, will need more coverage. How much coverage the Post wants should be decided by the Post membership at the recommendation of the Executive Committee. You should check your Post bylaws for expenditures.

Will your post need a fidelity bond? The answer is: most likely.

HOW DO I GET MY POST BONDED?

One good place to start would be your Post insurance agent. If your agent doesn't carry fidelity bonding, they might know a reliable company that does, though there are companies that carry both, they might be able to get a better deal bundling a fidelity bond in with your other coverage. It doesn't hurt to ask.

your Post will need to secure its own bonding to protect its monetary assets.

RESOURCE UPDATE:

Department Commander Autrey James has made contact through National for those Posts needing help securing a Fidelity Bond next year. NFP Insurance agency provides both Fidelity Bonding as well as Post Insurance using competitive rates. You can contact them through Chris Phillips at (317) 808-7262 or at chris.phillips@nfp.com.



Ladies & Gentlemen, Members, Veterans, Legion Family

We are the American Legion Family, the Elegant 18th District San Gabriel Valley Area. Service to our Veterans, Family and our Communities



District 18 Commander Irvin Flores -National Vice Commander W. Region Jim Higuera gives Oath of office



The Elegant 18th District





Around the District



The Elegant 18th District
Ritual Team Posts Installations



Coast Guard
Est. 1790



Installation of Post-30 Officers 06 July 2022 - SAL & Auxiliary



Installation of Post-790 Officers 09 July 2022



Installation of Post-280 Officers 08 July 2022 – SAL & Auxiliary



The Elegant 18th District Ritual Team Posts Installations



Installation of Post-261 Officers 13 July 2022 & Auxiliary



Installation of ALA-D18 Officers July 2022 @ Post 139



Elegant 18th District programs
At Various Posts - 280 Breakfast Fundraiser 10 July 2022



Elegant 18th District past Commanders			Year	Auxiliary past District Presidents		
Auggie Galaviz		(P-790)	2021-2022	U-755		Judy Tabacchi
Dave Whalen		(P-475)	2019-2021	(U-13)		Maureen Sacco
Scott Sinclair		(P-279)	2018-2019	(U-830)		Pat Martinez
Ralph Larriva		(P-75)	2017-2018	(U-261)		Betty Ramos
J. R. Duarte		(P-508)	2016-2017	(U-241)		Gail Pouliot
Manny Vital		(P-508)	2015-2016	(U-247)		Mindy Sinclair
Peter Douglas III	★	(P-280)	2014-2015	(U-755)		Laura Bradshaw
Augustine "Auggie" Galaviz		(P-790)	2013-2014	(U-830)		Judy Forrest
Scott Sinclair		(P-247)	2012-2013	(U-280)	★	Rhodana Enright
Lou Dominguez		(P-508)	2011-2012	(U-755)	★	Kathy Pipkin
Gil Cardoza		(P-139)	2010-2011	(U-261)		Denyse Laugeson
George Curtis		(P-755)	2009-2010	(U-261)		Denyse Laugeson
Steve Turley		(P-888)	2008-2009	(U-790)	★	Julie Potter
John Garcia		(P-508)	2007-2008			Liz Broughton
Larry Johnson	★	(P-280)	2006-2007	(U-790)		Norma Cooper
Herbert Garcia	★	(P-280)	2005-2006	(U-790)		Pamela Hicks
James Courson		(P-431)	2004-2005	(U-280)	★	Donna Enright
Henry Hicks	★	(P-790)	2003-2004	(U-755)		Judy Tabacchi
Michael Delgado		(P-790)	2002-2003	(U-422)	★	Peggy McIntosh
Vincent Seriana		(P-75)	2001-2002	(U-280)	★	Norma Duval
William Reed	★	(P-790)	2000-2001	(U-241)	★	Margaret Quinones
Robert Moxham		(P-755)	1999-2000	(U-247)		Rosemary MacArthur
Alex Rivney		(P-431)	1998-99		★	Doris Busch
Frank Wolfskill	★	(P-261)	1997-98	(U-261)		Betty Wolfskill
Margaret "Peggy" McIntosh	★	(P-422)	1996-97	(U-790)	★	Ann Martinez
William Krizansky	★	(P-790)	1995-96	(U-139)		Elizabeth Brown
Joseph Drogichen	★	(P-139)	1994-95	(U-241)		Nellie Staykovich
Donna Natali		(P-44)	1993-94	(U-755)		Judy Tabacchi
James "Apple" McIntosh	★	(P-442)	1992-93	(U-397)		Emma Romero
Eileen Krizansky	★	(P-790)	1991-92			Charlotte Ballard
Charles Bourbon	★	(P-180)	1990-91	(U-241)	★	Margaret Quinones
Maurice Ramirez			1989-90		★	Anita Rattan
William Stemmerman	★		1988-89	(U-790)		Carol Chilelli
Gene O. Brick	★		1987-88	(U-261)		Betty Wolfskill
Felix Nieves	★	(P-508)	1986-87	(U-422)	★	Peggy McIntosh
W.R. "Sonny" Quinn	★		1985-86		★	Wanda Gallegos
Thurston McDougal	★	(P-279)	1984-85		★	Sharon Burkhardt
Frank C. Larson	★		1983-84		★	Elvera North
Lloyd M. Stanper	★		1982-83			Ruth Gray
Virgil Ryan	★		1981-82		★	Lola Bodzsaar
Joseph Chilelli	★	(P-888)	1980-81		★	Joanne Thompson
Walter J. Gastrel	★		1979-80		★	Ehring Seeto
W. R. "Bud" Haskins			1978-79		★	Evelyn Peters
Arthur T. Rubino	★		1977-78		★	Corinne Martin
Roger Kar			1976-77		★	Viola Graham
William N. Marzov II	★		1975-76		★	Beryl Vandebur
William K. Rattan	★	(P-436)	1974-75		★	Eloise Gryatva
Allen W. Mokel	★		1973-74		★	Vivian Ingle
Hal Barnes	★		1972-73			Isabelle Zelasko

08/02 Operation Desert Shield
Began 1990

08/03 Post-78 Installation
Clairmont

08/04 U.S. Coast Guard
Established 1790

08/05 LACC Mtg.

08/06 First Atomic bomb
Mission 1945

08/07 Purple Heart Day

08/08 Dist. Mtg.
E-Board @ Post 279 Temple City

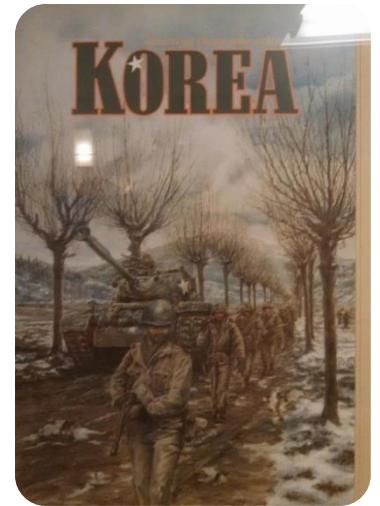
08/12 Battle of Bunker Hill
(1952)

08/14 VJ Day
1945

08/15 Allied Invasion
Southern France 1944

08/19 District Meeting
@ Temple City Post 279

08/26-09/01 American Legion
National Convention



The Voice of Elegance

District 18 THE AMERICAN LEGION
P.O. Box 5256
El Monte, CA 91734



From the Chaplain



It is an honor to serve as the Elegant 18th District's Chaplain for 2022--2023.

I hope the words that come out of my mouth at the start and end of District membership meetings focus on remembering why our organization exists. We look out for our fellow veterans, and we work to provide service to veterans and military families. We thank the Lord for allowing and supporting our efforts to do so.

We served proudly while in uniform and we serve proudly now: Veterans Serving Veterans and Veterans Serving America! God Bless the America Legion and God Bless America!

Gil Ramos Post 261
District 18 Chaplain

Wish to receive the District newsletter by Email, please notify
Editor Auggie G. at
age69vet@verizon.net

DISTRICT MEETING Friday 19 August, 2022
Post-279 Temple City @ 7:30 p.m.





THERE ARE DIFFERENCES WHEN CONDUCTING BUSINESS MEETINGS VERSUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

by Gary Leach | Jul 13, 2022



There are significant differences between what the presiding officer may do in a business meeting (monthly Post meeting) and a committee meeting.

"If the presiding officer is a member of the assembly or voting body, he has the same *right* as any other member. **Except in a** small board or **committee**, however – unless the vote is secret

(that is, unless it is by ballot; 45) – **the chair protects his impartial position by exercising his voting right only when his vote would affect the outcome**, in which case he can either vote and thereby change the result, or he can abstain." RONR (12th ed.) 4:56

When it comes to debate on a pending question, "...the presiding officer does not enter into discussion of the merits of pending questions (unless, in rare instances, **he leaves the chair until the pending business has been disposed of...**" RONR (12th ed.) 4:31

Note the exception mentioned above for a small board or **committee** from RONR (12th ed.) 4:56. In a committee meeting, "If the chairman is a member, he may, **without leaving the chair, speak in informal discussion and in debate, and vote on all questions.**"⁴

RONR (12th ed.) 49:21 (7)

Informal discussion may be initiated by the chair himself, which, in effect, enables the chairman to submit his own proposals without formally making a motion as described in 4:4-8 (**although he has the right to make a motion if he wishes**). RONR (12th ed.) 49:21(7)n4

In summation, the chairman of a business meeting does not take part in debate without first relinquishing the chair and, with the exception of a ballot vote, votes only when his vote will affect the outcome. In a committee meeting, the chairman is a fully participating member with the right to make motions, take part in debate, and vote on all questions.

Gary Leach is parliamentarian for The American Legion Department of California.



AUTHOR: CALIFORNIA AMERICAN LEGION

Chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919, The American Legion is the nation's largest veterans service organization and its Department of California is dedicated to serving the approximately 2 million veterans living in communities across the Golden State. The American Legion is committed to mentoring youth and the sponsorship of wholesome programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow servicemembers and veterans. California veterans and their families strengthen America.



Update Your Address and Contact Information Online

Are you moving, currently receiving benefits or prescriptions, or enrolled in VA health care and want to know how to change your address? You can update your personal contact information anytime, anywhere through [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov). Log in or create a free [VA.gov](https://www.va.gov) account today!



VA Disability 2023 Increase?

Is VA disability compensation going up in 2023? In this episode of the SITREP, hear how current Cost of Living projections could mean a significant increase for Veterans and their dependents.

The Elegant 18th District Post Honor & Color Guards Parades – Ceremonials – Funerals Please contact the Team Members listed below:



District 18
Honor and Color Guard

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Bob Radcliff
Captain
Post 30

1974 Marigold St.
Pomona, CA 91767
(909) 629-0670
radcliff.Dist18@gmail.com



**American Legion
Borinquen Post 508**

Honor Guard

**Team Member
Richard Santos**
(951) 206-9526

P.O. Box 1198
Covina, CA 91722
borinquenpost508@earthlink.net



Please support American Legion Programs such as Boys State, the Oratorical Contest, homeless veteran support and perpetuating patriotism!

With your \$40 donation you will receive:

A beautiful Legion nylon pullover jacket and the Official Elegant 18th District lapel pin

Sizes adult 3XL-Small

Payment methods:

PayPal: gijoeqwd@pacbell.net
Venmo or Zelle: 626 833 8493
Checks payable to American Legion District 18 and of course, U.S. currency!

Neil La Sala, 2nd Vice Commander
District 18, ntlalasa@att.net



FALL COURSE OF THE CALIFORNIA AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE

by [Web Team](#) | Jul 16, 2022



The Fall course of the California American Legion College (CALC) is being held in the same location as the spring course, Clovis, CA. from October 21-23.

Legion College is designed for Legionnaires interested in operating a more prosperous and

relevant American Legion Post within their respective communities.

Applications must be submitted online. [Fall 2022 – Student Application](#)



- Participants will be responsible for their own lodging costs. Best Western Cole (across the street from the training center) is providing us the following rates on October 20-23, with a hot Breakfast from 5 a.m. – 9 a.m.
 - Room with 2 Queen beds: \$164 plus tax, Room with 1 King bed: \$155.99 plus tax
- Participants & Staff will receive .40 per mile travel expense and \$150 per diem for the 3 day course, and We have already received 5 applications. That is 25% of our budgeted goal. If you want attend this Fall course, we suggest you submit your application soon!



VLI LEGAL CLINIC



**Veterans Legal Institute and VA Long Beach
are proud to offer a monthly legal clinic
to assist with the following:**

- Vietnam Veterans–disability claims associated with Agent Orange Exposure
- Veterans with burn pit exposure
- All other VA disability benefits appeals
- Family law matters
- Wills/trusts
- Discharge upgrades
- Housing legal issues

Please call (714) 844-4421 for guidance on the application process and to determine eligibility to attend the clinic

Appointment times are from 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM.

Please specify the type of legal assistance you are seeking.

**BUILDING 165
5901 E. 7TH ST.
LONG BEACH, CA 90822**

2022 CLINIC DATES:

July 22 (7/22)	Aug. 12 (8/12)	Sept. 9 (9/9)
Oct. 7 (10/7)	Nov. 4 (11/4)	Dec. 9 (12/9)

***Bring a copy of your DD214 if you have it available.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
VA Long Beach Healthcare System