



Irvin Flores
Commander 2022 - 2023
The Elegant 18th District



Dear 18th District:

Hope You had a Nice time during the Holidays! When You receive this letter I Hope that You are All Keeping Safe! I would like to share with You that at times Information may become repetitive, but as long as information is being passed, That Is The Most Important Thing!

I really Appreciate All the Teamwork from The Posts Members who Have Been Attending Our 18th Dist. General Meetings and the Posts who Volunteered to Host the 18th District! We have seen more participation at the 18th Dist. General Meetings, however we need to continue to work towards Our 100% Participation Goal! There are still a few Posts That Need To Work on Participating! We Still Need Your Help! You can Help by Attending the 18th District General Meetings! Once Again, Post Commanders, You (As Post Commanders) are Expected and Required to Attend All Our 18th District General Meetings! (They are not just My Meetings, They Are Your Meetings Also!) If You cannot attend Our General Meeting, Then You could Have Your Post 1st Vice Comm, 2nd Vice Comm, Adjutant or a Regular Member of Your Post Go to the Meeting! Yeah, I'm not picky, just send a Regular Member of Your Post to take notes and give information about your Post at The 18th Dist. Gen. Meeting! And, I don't care if You send All four Veterans Previously Mentioned to Attend the Meetings (Yeah, Like a Fire Team)you are part of this district, lol! It's Cool, The More People The Better! Thank You!

As We continue on Our Journey Accomplishing Our Mission in accordance with The Four Pillars of Our American Legion, I would like to also say Thank You Post 30 and Post 261 for Filling the last 2 Openings We had on Our Schedule!

We Would Love to Continue Experiencing This Outstanding Teamwork from All Posts in Our Beloved Elegant 18th District, Department of California in Our Future Months, Years, Decades, Centuries and Millenniums, Ladies and Gentlemen, Fellow Veterans!

Please Keep Up the Great Work!

Thank You!

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



What Is A Veteran?
A "Veteran" - whether active duty, discharged, retired, or reserve - is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The United States of America," for an amount of "up to, and including his life."

**I am a United States
Military Veteran**

I once took a
SOLEMN OATH
to defend the
CONSTITUTION
against **ALL** enemies,
foreign and *Domestic*

BE ADVISED

No one has ever
relieved me of my duties
under this Oath!



Membership is Everybody's
RESPONSIBILITY



Happy New Year Legion Family,

Thanks to everyone that supported out District 18 See's Candies Fundraiser, as we made over \$600 during the campaign. Standby by for the upcoming Valentine's Day and Easter drives... you can never go wrong with See's Candies! Also, I was proud of the turnout we had for the Homeless Veterans Outreach event on Christmas morning. Twelve District 18 Family members rolled out to the West Los Angeles VA Hospital and distributed backpacks with toiletries and food. Furthermore, special thanks to all those that participated in procuring, filling and staging the backpacks prior to December 25th.

Lastly, please use this link and forward to your Post Family contacts for dues renewal or to join our Legion Family, as the perpetuation of membership is our lifeblood! District 18 has advanced from being last in membership in the Department of California in 2022 to being ranked 12 out of the 30 districts in 2023! Every Legion Family member should be proud of this achievement, let's keep going all the way until we become number 1!

<https://cadistrict18.org/join-or-renew-membership/>

Here's to a blessed New Year for you and yours! Semper Fidelis,

Neil T. La Sala
American Legion
Department of California
18th District 1st Vice Commander
626 833 8493
ntlasala@att.net
Post 280 Commander

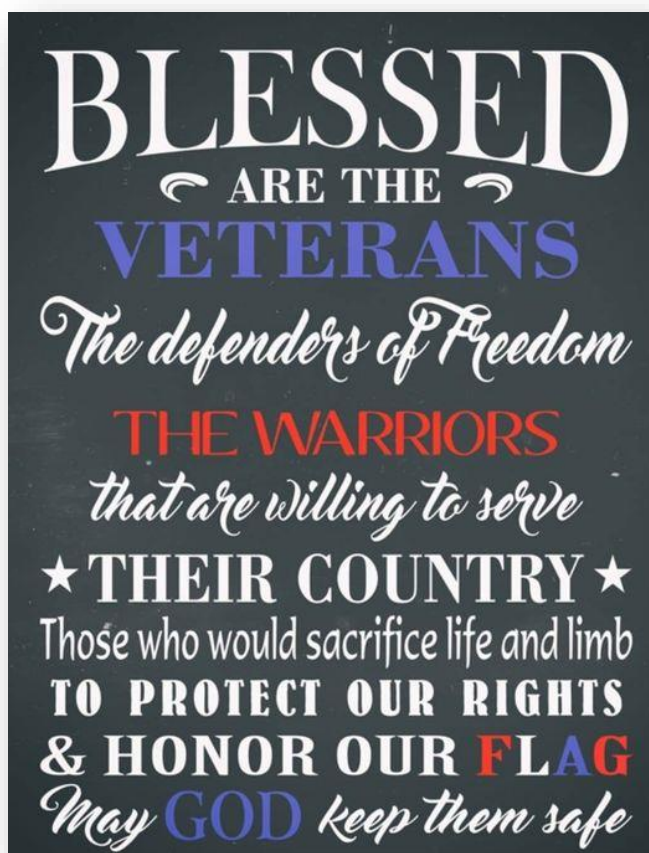


From the desk of 2nd Vice,
Sam Cafiero

Hello Legion Family,

Semper Fidelis - Always Faithful

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.



Mon. Jan. 9, 2023 E. Board Post 247 at Temple City P279
Fri. Jan. 20, 2023 General Post 247 at Temple City P279

Mon. Feb. 13, 2023 E. Board Post 139
Fri. Feb. 17, 2023 General Post 139 (Four Chaplains Ceremony)

Mon. Mar. 13, 2023 E. Board Post 30
Fri. Mar. 17, 2023 General Post 30

Mon. Apr. 10, 2023 E. Board Post 180
Fri. Apr. 21, 2023 General Post 180 (First Nominations of Officers)

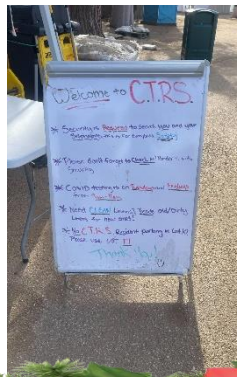
Mon. May, 8, 2023 E. Board Post 261
Fri. May, 19, 2023 General Post 261 (2nd Nominations and Election of Officers)

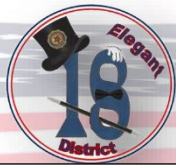
Sat. May, 20, 2023 6th Area Caucus Post 280
Mon. June, 12, 2023 E. Board Post 280
Fri. June, 16, 2023 General Post 280 (Past Commanders and Past Auxiliary Presidents Night)

Wed. June, 21, 2023 to Sun. June, 25, 2023 (Department of California Convention)

THE ELEGANT 18TH DISTRICT & S.A.L. – San Gabriel Valley area

Again, we service our Homeless Veterans, helping give a 'Holiday cheer'
At West L. A. Veterans Hospital streets To personally hand them a Holiday gift.





Fellow Comrades,

I hope everyone is doing well and had a great Christmas and a New Year! FYI the **Post Commanders** who are Not attending District meetings means that you are Not representing your Post or your Members who elected you as their Commander. We understand that sometimes you have to miss a meeting or two or an emergency and cannot attend, that is why you have Vice Commanders & Adjutant or another Member attend the meeting. By doing so your Post is represented and your members are receiving the information that is being discussed at the District Meeting. Please contact the District Commander if you will not be attending the Meeting let him know who will be attending in your absence. Please do not rely on the District Newsletter for all your information.

Legion records and accounting of your Post finances are an integral part of your Post membership report a public record! All accounts, money, membership and post business are important records that should be kept on post files, any members or even if Department wants to review, should be available at your post secured files. Your Post the American Legion is a recognized Congressionally Chartered non-profit Veterans organization. Read your State Corporation Laws & National By-laws.

In Comradeship,
Manuel E Vital – District 18 Judge Advocate
18th District



Allen Rodriguez P-78



Al Mora P-280



Ed Barlow P-247



Ritchie Santos P-508



JR Duarte P-10



Joe Mercier P-475



Joe Paczkowski P-30



Dave Mushinski P-78



Jr. past Dist. Cmdr. P-790

DISTRICT 18 Commander IRVIN FLORES (AREA 6)

Department of California - 2023 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

12/23/2022

POST	Name	City	New	PUL	Members Paid	1000/DMS Transfers	Total Members	Goal	%
10	South El Monte	South El Monte	0	2	10	0	12	22	54.55%
13	Pasadena	Pasadena	4	14	52	1	71	105	67.62%
30	Pomona Charles P Rowe	Pomona	0	34	75	1	110	170	64.71%
44	Monrovia	Monrovia	0	12	36	0	48	70	68.57%
75	La Puente	City of Industry	0	24	61	0	85	117	72.65%
78	Keith Powell	Claremont	2	10	37	1	50	60	83.33%
139	Alhambra	Alhambra	6	24	107	0	137	180	76.11%
180	Canyon City	Azuza	3	24	88	1	116	180	64.44%
241	Abraham Lincoln	Baldwin Park	4	8	19	0	31	62	50.00%
247	Arcadia	Monrovia	4	25	70	0	99	110	90.00%
261	El Monte	El Monte	2	5	27	0	34	45	75.56%
279	Temple City	Temple City	0	11	30	0	41	45	91.11%
280	East Pasadena	Pasadena	2	40	78	1	121	162	74.69%
397	Monterey Park	Monterey Park	8	8	23	3	42	52	80.77%
431	Edison	Alhambra	0	2	13	0	15	25	60.00%
475	San Dimas - Glendora	Glendora	0	10	62	0	72	100	72.00%
508	Borinquen	Baldwin Park	4	14	63	0	81	90	90.00%
748	Reyner Aguirre	San Gabriel	0	14	13	0	27	40	67.50%
755	Charter Cove	Covina	1	16	88	1	106	140	75.71%
790	West Covina	West Covina	7	61	136	3	207	275	75.27%
Total			47	358	1,088	12	1,505	2,050	73.41%



18th District Meeting @ Post 280 East Pasadena – 12-16-2022



District 18 S.A.L. provided a Christmas party to the Long Beach National Guard



LACC Tamale Festival hosted by Post 139 Alhambra in the Elegant 18th District



IN-COUNTRY VET



THINKING OF OUR AFGHAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS...

Around the District

18th District Post Activity Schedules

Verify with the listed Posts for times and costs.



MLK Day

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2023

Monday, January 2nd
6am to 9:30am



American Legion
East Pasadena Post 280
179 N. Vinado Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91107

Continental Breakfast

Fresh Fruit, Pastries, Yogurt, Bagels,
Coffee & Hot Chocolate
Donation \$10

Pozole Verde - Donation \$8

Biscuits & Gravy - Donation \$5

Dine in or Take out

AMERICAN LEGION

Corn Hole Tournament

Presented by the Elegant 18th District at
AMERICAN LEGION POST 279



JANUARY 7, 2023

12pm to 4pm

Single entry - \$10

Partner entry \$15

Medals, Prizes, & Camaraderie

9522 Las Tunas Dr. Temple City, Ca 91780

Point of contact Samuel Caffero- 2nd Vice Commander 18D

(909) 993-7644



AMERICAN LEGION
POST 261 EL MONTE

BREAKFAST

2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00AM-11:00AM

BREAKFAST INCLUDES: SCRAMBLED EGGS,
SAUSAGE, PANCAKES OR POTATOES,
ORANGE JUICE AND COFFEE

\$8



THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 261
4542 N PECK RD
EL MONTE, CA 91731



All proceeds to help the men and women Veterans

Knott's BERRY FARM

2022 MILITARY TRIBUTE DAYS

NOV. 1 - NOV. 17 & NOV. 28 - DEC. 15

(MONDAY - THURSDAY)

PLUS VETERANS DAY

2022 FIRE & LAW TRIBUTE DAYS

NOV. 28 - DEC. 15 & JAN. 9 - JAN. 26

(MONDAY - THURSDAY)

ELIGIBLE PERSONNEL AND
UP TO 5 ADDITIONAL
PEOPLE FOR \$19.99* EACH.

*PLUS APPLICABLE TAXES AND FEES
FOR ONLINE AND MILITARY TICKET
OFFICE PURCHASES.





Members, Veterans, Auxiliary, SAL's & Riders
Veteran's programs throughout the district and other Vet's programs.
Thanks for your Service and Thank you all for your support...



*Please note that if you are going to be submitting a Post Financial Audit, the submission should
audit the dates of Jul 1, 2021 – Jun 30, 2022
(unless otherwise stated in your Post Bylaws)

CA Department Post Probation/Suspension Report
Posts in RED are on Suspension per Department Executive Committee
12/23/2022

Area	District	Post	Name	City	Balance Owed to Dept.	Financial Audit Certification (2019-2020)	Financial Audit Certification (2020-2021)	Financial Audit Certification (2021-2022)	Post Data Report	# of posts on probation	# of posts in district	% of posts on probation
6	18	44	Monrovia	Monrovia						5	20	25.00%
		75	La Puente	City of Industry								
		241	Abraham Lincoln	Baldwin Park								
		748	Reyner Aguirre	San Gabriel								
		755	Charter Cove	Covina								

have created some short videos that go over various Veteran Benefits as well as Services to include Work for Warriors Job hunting tools.

Work for Warriors Overview - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QJLWpFCcq3o&t=19s>

Build Your Resume - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpETrXp09UU&t=55s>

Free LinkedIn Premium - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wd3FueBQ5Is>

At Risk of Becoming Homeless Service - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSo4elh78pl&t=121s>

VA Compensation Pay Raise - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xaW43QakTfA&t=406s>

General Benefits - <https://www.youtube.com/@veteransinfotap8171>

Please View, Subscribe and Share with others!

American Legion District 18 and the American Red Cross are hosting an upcoming blood drive. Please join our lifesaving mission and schedule an appointment today!

Drive Details:

Site: American Legion District 18 / **Address:** 179 N Vinedo Ave, Pasadena, CA, 91107

Room Name: Legion Hall / **Date:** Fri Jan 6, 2023 / **Time:** 2:00: PM - 8:00: PM

Blood Program Leader Name: James Terrones

Blood Program Leader Phone Number: 9098597099

Greetings Life Saver! Blood donations are in decline, and we need you more than ever. Every 2 seconds someone needs blood and roughly 29,000. units of red blood cells are required every day in the US. With your commitment it will allow families the opportunity to be with loved ones. NOTE: 1 blood donation can help up to 3 patients. In appreciation all donors will automatically be entered to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LVII in Arizona! Includes travel, hotel, \$500 gift card. UPDATE! All blood donors that have lived in the UK, Ireland and France and have been deferred from donating blood due to Jakob Disease/Mad Cow, may donate blood again by calling 866-236-3276. Call prior to blood donation to have deferral removed.

The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime.

Thank you for supporting the American Red Cross blood program!



Los Angeles County Council of
The American Legion, Department of California
Delinquent Post Report **December 16, 2022**

There are Seven(7) Post still Delinquent!

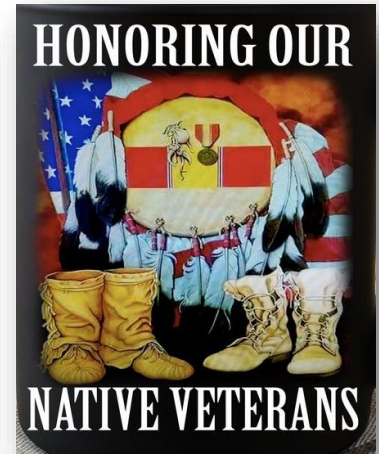
Dist.	Post #	Name	\$15.00 Dues	Cert/Off
18	13	Pasadena	Due	Due
	44	Monrovia	Due	Due
75		La Puente	Due	Due
	241	Abraham Lincoln	Due	Due
	279	Temple City	Due	Due
	397	Monterey Park	Due	Due
	755	Charter Cove	Due	Due

Make check/money order payable to: The Los Angeles County Council.

Mail to: LACC Adjutant
Robert C. Brown
837 E. Cyrene Street
Carson, CA 90746-3017

Thanking you in advance,
Robert C. Brown - Adjutant

DISTRICT 18 (AREA 6)							
Detachment of CA - 2023 MEMBERSHIP REPORT						12/23/2022	
Squadron	Name	City	New	Renewed	Total Members	Goal	%
13	Pasadena	Pasadena	0	0	0	0	0.00%
30	Pomana Charles P Rowe	Pomona	1	13	14	25	56.00%
75	La Puente	City of Industry	0	20	20	26	76.92%
139	Alhambra	Alhambra	0	30	30	33	90.91%
180	Canyon City	Azuza	4	34	38	34	111.76%
241	Abraham Lincoln	Baldwin Park	0	6	6	29	20.69%
280	East Pasadena	Pasadena	0	15	15	36	41.67%
755	Charter Cove	Covina	2	36	38	62	61.29%
790	West Covina	West Covina	0	19	19	33	57.58%
Total			7	173	180	278	64.75%

2023-01- Happy New Year**2023-0106 LACC
Meeting****2023-01-09 D18 Mtg.**
*Exct.Bd.Mtg. @P279***2023-01-17**
*Operation Desert Storm Began 1991***2023-01-20 D-18 Mtg.**
*@Post 279 Temple City***2023-01-23 MLK**
Martin Luther King (born 1929)**2023-01-27 Signing of Vietnam
Peace Accord 1973***Signing of the Vietnam
Peace Accord 1973**Martin Luther King Day
1929**The Voice of Elegance*District 18 THE AMERICAN LEGION
P.O. Box 5256
El Monte, CA 91734Wish to receive the District
newsletter by Email, please notify
Editor Auggie G. at
age69vet@verizon.net**DISTRICT MEETING Friday 20 JANUARY, 2023**
Post-279 Temple City, @ 7:30 p.m.



American Legion Department
Veterans Affairs



It has been a busy year for The Veterans Collective! Our work is well underway to transform the historic West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs North Campus into the country's largest supportive housing community for homeless and at-risk. Once complete, the 70+ acre North Campus will feature upwards of 1,700 units of housing and a community of over 3,000 Veterans and their families.

We are proud to share that, starting in January 2023, we will begin welcoming our first Veterans to their new homes.



VA Benefit Payment Rates Increase

The Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for VA disability compensation benefits programs became effective on December 1, 2022. [The 8.7% COLA increase](#) is for the calendar year 2023.

Veterans and beneficiaries receiving VA disability compensation will notice an increase in their monthly payments, starting January 1, 2023. This annual increase impacts disability benefits, clothing allowance, Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC), as well as other VA assistance programs. If you do not see a difference in the amount, you should contact the [VA regional office near you](#).

To ask questions about applying for VA disability benefits or appealing a VA decision, [reach out to a VA-accredited representative today](#).



CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914

With the holidays upon us, we look back to World War I and the Christmas Truce.

It was Christmas Eve in 1914 and soldiers on both sides of the Western Front spontaneously ceased fighting and emerged from their trenches to meet in "no man's land," resulting in the well-known event known as the Christmas Truce.



Broaden your horizons and join The American Legion on Cloud 9

"The American Legion Department of California is pleased to announce that we've worked with Google to provide free training for its **cloud services to veterans**. To take advantage of this free training for Google Cloud Services, you must be a member of The American Legion Family, 18 years of age, and committed to completing this self-paced program in 6 months.

For more information, check out the website below and contact Autrey James or Roberto C. Arnold to enroll:

<https://calegion.org/google-cloud-training/>

Roberto C. Arnold's Email: roberto@mballiance.org