



**GENERAL ORDER NO. 5**  
**SERIES 2018-2019**  
**AUXILIARY TO SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

**Restoration of Rank**

By the authority vested in me as National President of the Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and the National Constitution, Rules and Regulations, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: On April 27, 2019 the following existing Departments were consolidated into the new Department of New England: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Section 2: A question has recently been raised as to the status of Past Department Presidents (PDPs) from the above mentioned and now-defunct Departments, and specifically whether said Sisters retain their automatic voting rights at a National Encampment. An individual's honors as a PDP reside with the Department of which they were President.

Section 3: The ASUVCW Constitution, Rules and Regulations (CR&R) are silent on the process for restoration of rank, except in cases of disciplinary removal (see Chapter IV, Article V), which is not the issue in this case. Since the CR&R are silent on this issue, "the laws, customs and decisions of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War . . . decide all questions of order not contained in our Constitution, Rules and Regulations." (see Article IV, Section 11; Article VI, Section 14; and Article XI).

Section 4: The SUVCW Constitution and Regulations (C&R) are quite clear on the process (see C&R Article II, Section 4), which is delineated as follows:

- a) The individual seeking restoration of PDP rank must first petition their local Auxiliary in writing.
- b) If acted upon favorably by the Auxiliary, in regular session, the request shall be forwarded to the Department President, setting forth the cause or causes of loss of rank and reason or reasons for request of restoration, and signed by the Auxiliary President and Auxiliary Secretary.
- c) The Department President shall then present the same to the Department Encampment under new business, and, if acted upon favorably by the Department Encampment, shall be forwarded to the National President, and signed by the Department President and Department Secretary.
- d) The petition will be voted upon by the National Encampment and the results of said vote shall be communicated to the individual in question by the National Secretary.

Section 5: The National President attended the inaugural Encampment of the Department of New England at Groton, Massachusetts on April 27, 2019, and has first-hand knowledge that the above delineated process for restoration of rank was not followed, nor was it brought up for a vote at the Encampment.

Section 6: It is therefore hereby ordered that past Presidents of the now-defunct Departments of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont no longer retain the honorary title of Past Department President (PDP), nor do they retain their automatic voting rights at the National Encampment. These honors and rights may be restored in the future by following the proper process, as delineated in Section 4 of this order.

The foregoing General Order is proclaimed this sixth day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fourth, in the city of Woneuc, County of Juneau, State of Wisconsin.

/s/ Denise Bernadine Oman, PDP  
National President, ASUVCW

ATTEST:

By: /s/ Rachelle M. Campbell, PNP  
National Secretary, ASUVCW