



**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
COMMANDER
Department of Indiana**

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**DEPARTMENT ORDER 2025-1
SERIES 2025-2026**

APRIL 27, 2025



Brothers of the Department of Indiana,

- I. **Department Annual Encampment** : I am truly honored and humbled to have been elected to the office of Department Commander at the Annual Department of Indiana Encampment held April 26, 2025. I want to congratulate and thank past Department Commander Thomas Schmitt for his leadership and service to the Department for the past two years. Additionally, I would like to thank all of the members, elected and appointed, who have continued to serve the Department in any capacity. The work of the order can not be successfully performed without your most able and generous service. Congratulations and thank you to all Brothers elected and appointed for choosing to serve in Department of Indiana offices for the next year.
- II. **Transfer of Headquarters** : Headquarters of the Department Commander is hereby transferred to 506 Maple Street, Sweetser IN 46987. Mail for the Department Commander may be posted to Post Office Box 56 Sweetser IN 46987. Electronic email is preferred at travis.lemaster@gmail.com My cell phone number is (765) 667-1940. I do accept text messages, but please include your name if you do not regularly communicate with me. Please feel free to contact me by any of these methods if you have a question, concern, or information to pass along.
- III. **Elected Department Officers**: The following Brothers were regularly elected by the Encampment and installed by National Guest Robert Payne, PDC - National Council of Administration - to serve the 2025-2026 term:

Department Commander	Travis J. LeMaster, PCC
SV Dept. Commander	David Hoesli, PCC
JV Dept. Commander	Frederick E. Leickly, CC
Dept. Council Member	Thomas L. Schmitt, PDC
Dept. Council Member	Dennis H. Rigsby, PDC

Dept. Council Member	Timothy J. Beckman, PDC
Dept. Secretary	Dennis C. Hutchinson, PDC
Dept. Treasurer	Drew Godby, PCC

IV. **Appointed Department Officers:** The following Brothers were appointed by me as Department Commander and installed by National Guest Robert Payne, PDC - National Council of Administration - to serve the 2025-2026 term:

Patriotic Instructor	Jonathan Swarts, PCC
Chaplain	J. Alan Teller, PDC
Graves Registration Officer	David Hoesli, PCC
Civil War Monuments Officer	Michael W. Beck, PDC
Eagle Scout Coordinator	Michael W. Beck, PDC
S.V.R.	William R. Adams, PDC
G.A.R. Highway Officer	William R. Adams, PDC
Historian	Bruce R. Kolb, PDC
Counselor	Bruce R. Kolb, PDC
G.A.R. Records Officer	Bruce R. Kolb, PDC
Signals Officer	Timothy J. Beckman, PDC
Indiana Legion Editor	Taylin Allen
Camp Organizer	William R. Adams, PDC
Color Bearer	Randy McNally, CC
Guard	Brian Mexin, CC
Guide	Ronald L. Hyer

V. **Department Committees :** I hereby establish the following Department Committees and appoint the following Brothers to serve on said committee. The chair of each committee is in **BOLD**:

- National Encampment Host
 - **Michael W. Beck, PDC**
 - Timothy J. Beckman, PDC
 - Dennis C. Hutchinson, PDC
- 26th Indiana Vicksburg Monument
 - **William R. Adams, PDC**
 - Bruce R. Kolb, PDC
 - Michael W. Beck, PDC
- Department Records Storage
 - **Drew Godby, PCC**
 - J. Alan Teller, PDC
 - William R. Adams, PDC
- Department Projects
 - **J. Alan Teller, PDC**
 - Thomas L. Schmitt, PDC
 - Brian Mexin

- VI. **Community Participation:** I encourage all Brothers to *Keep Green in Our Memories the Boys in Blue* by participating in activities such as gravestone and monument rededication ceremonies, gravestone and memorial cleanings and educational events at schools and living history reenactments. It is vital that SUVCW members be seen by the public in the communities in which we live.
- VII. **Camp Offices:** I strongly encourage all Camps of the Department of Indiana to fill the offices of Patriotic Instructor, Graves Registration Officer and Eagle Scout/ROTC Coordinator. These important offices are needed to accomplish the mission of the SUVCW.
- VIII. **Camp Forms :** I instruct each Camp Secretary to promptly fill out Form-30 when any change occurs with our membership. This includes change of address or email address, change of membership status including the following: New member, Transfer, Loss, Achievement, Status, Dual Membership and Death of a Brother. Camp forms to be submitted to the Department Secretary on a timely basis are Form-22, Form-27 and a copy of Form 990-N when filed with the government. Contact Department Secretary Dennis Hutchinson to submit forms and/or with any questions.
- IX. **Camp Websites :** I ask that all Camps have and maintain a website. An updated listing of elected officers should exist along with contact information. If you need technical assistance with your website contact Department Signals Officer Tim Beckman.
- X. **Patriotic Instruction :** Patriotic Instruction should be presented at all Camp meetings. It is important that Form-40 be filled out for the Camp and submitted to the Department Patriot Instructor Jonathan Swarts before April 1st each year.
- XI. **BANNER and Indiana Legion:** I encourage each member and Camp to submit articles to the BANNER magazine and information about every activity or event to the Indiana Legion. Submitting pictures of the event is encouraged.
- XII. **National Encampment :** The 2025 National Encampment will be held in Houston, Texas between August 7th-10th. .
- XIII. **Closing :** The Department of Indiana Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War belongs to each and every one of its members. I encourage each and every one of you to renew your interest in the Fraternity and provide your support and input by attending Camp meetings and getting involved in projects, memorials and other worthy events. Please reach out to me or any other Department Officer if you have a question or if we can be of service in any way.

Ordered this 27th Day of April, 2025
In Fraternity, Charity & Loyalty,



Travis J. LeMaster
Commander - Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

[DEPARTMENT SEAL]

Attested:

Dennis C. Hutchinson, PDC

Secretary - Department of Indiana

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War