



THE MISSION

Build and coordinate a national network of veterans and military families that will assist in electing Democrats in national, state, and local elections, promote the accomplishments and agenda of the [Democratic] President's Administration and other Democratic Party elected officials, and to enhance and coordinate programs and activities of other elements of the Democratic Party of the United States.

- 1. The Veterans & Military Families Council is a constituent element of the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Party**
- 2. Structure and Organization**
 - a. Two Co-Chairs, Six Vice Chairs, and One Secretary**
 - i. Voted on by the DNC VMFC membership
 - ii. In case of a vacancy, the Executive Committee appoints a replacement via a vote
 - b. Six Vice Chair Positions**
 - i. Campaigns and Elections
 - ii. Communications and Social Media
 - iii. Fundraising and Events
 - iv. Membership & Recruitment
 - v. Legislation
 - vi. Labor
 - c. Executive Committee Duties and Responsibilities**
 - i. Executive Committee members shall serve a four year term¹ beginning 26 AUG 2025, and for each increment term thereafter; Any member elected or appointed between the beginning and ending dates of any term will serve until the next election; The term of all other officers will be set at the discretion of the Executive Committee
 - ii. The Executive Committee shall have the power and responsibility to undertake the tasks and functions of the VMFC; It will exercise its authority within the rules and policies of the Democratic National Convention
 - iii. Adopt programs, functions, and activities designed to attract, organize and promote the Democratic Party / DNC and its candidates at the local, state, and federal levels, focusing on veterans and military families and their economic, social, and political wellbeing
 - iv. Help raise money at the state and federal levels to promote the activities spelled out above in section 2.c.iii. All funds raised and spent by the VMFC will be in accordance with the guidance and rules of the DNC
 - v. Receive resources from the DNC to promote the VMFC and its activities
 - vi. Display and publicize the policies of the Democratic Party at major Democratic Party sponsored events such as, but not limited to, the Democratic National Convention, state Democratic Party events, and activities sponsored by compatible organizations

¹ Proviso: The Secretary position's initial term shall be for two years beginning 26 AUG 2025 and subsequent terms shall be for four years.

- vii. Undertake such other functions and activities that will promote and aggrandize the policies and goals of the Democratic Party at all levels
- viii. Exercise leadership for Democratic Party policies, programs and activities, at every level, in order to promote the interests of veterans and military families
- ix. Create and maintain liaisons with established Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs): i.e. The American Legion; Veterans of Foreign Wars; Disabled American Veterans
- x. Create and maintain liaisons with established VMF, defense, and national security non-profits and PACS: i.e. Vote Vets; Taking the Hill; Common Defense; National Security Leaders of America

d. National Regional Coordinators

The following are provisions related to Regional Coordinators. Their duties, responsibilities and qualifications will be determined by the Executive Committee; They will be selected by the Executive Committee upon being recommended by the Liaison; Regions are defined as following, with the condition that the VC of Membership & Recruitment may move states from one region to another or create new regions, as conditions dictate:

- Northeast (ME, VT, NH, MA, CT)
- Tri State (NY, PA, RI, NJ)
- Mid-Atlantic (VA, WV, MD, DE)
- Southeast (KY, TN, NC, SC, GA, FL, AL, MS, LA, AR)
- Midwest (OH, MI, IN, IL, WI, MN, IA, MO, ND, SD, NE, KS)
- Southwest (TX, OK, NM, CO, AZ, UT, NV)
- West (MT, WY, ID, AK, WA, OR, CA, HI)
- Democrats Abroad, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam

e. State Directors

- i. For those state Democratic parties that have the equivalent of a VMFC incorporated as a part of their steering / executive committee, the chair of said VMFC equivalent serves as a State Director on the DNC VMFC
- ii. For those states that do not, the DNC VMFC VC for Membership & Recruitment selects an established veterans and military families grassroots Democratic Party leader for whom the Executive Committee voter to serve as the State Director

e. Executive Committee Emeritus

- i. Any previous Executive Committee member who wishes to remain active on the Council may be deemed a member of the Emeritus Committee, at the discretion of the Executive Committee
- ii. Vetting shall continue as per elected officer positions

f. DNC VMFC Liaison

- i. A paid DNC staffer (FTE) who assists the VMFC with its activities
 1. Shall disseminate officer contact information and keep such lists current
 2. Shall be responsible for ensuring that all Executive Committee members participate in council and DNC relevant affairs
 3. Shall report to the Executive Committee appropriate information concerning VMFC and DNC functions
 4. Shall act on behalf of the VMFC to outside audiences as directed by the Executive Committee and the DNC

3. Quorum

More than half of the Executive Committee membership must be present for all voice votes, to include votes via conference call. For e-mail votes, quorum will be assumed

4. General Provisions

- a. Amendments to these By-Laws may be made upon recommendation of the Executive Committee and approval by the National Chair of the Democratic National Committee
- b. Membership in the VMFC shall be open to any veteran, family member of veterans, or family members of persons either currently on active duty or retired veterans, or to any other US citizen; The Executive Committee shall determine the specific conditions by which a person may become a member of the VMFC; Specific rights and responsibilities of individual members of the VMFC shall be defined by the Executive Committee
- c. Any officer, member or associate of the VMFC who does not support the nominee of the Democratic Party for President or any other Democrat duly nominated by the Democratic Party or one of its state partners shall forfeit her or his role in the VMFC
- d. All persons shall abide by the VMFC Code of Conduct

5. Absences

- a. Any officer that has missed two consecutive meetings during any term will be deemed to have resigned. Exception may be granted by the full Executive Committee for extenuating circumstances
- b. As the VFMC is a council of a national political organization, all officers who assume positions that would prohibit them from engaging in political activity or unable to participate in VMFC activities for 60 days or longer are required to immediately tender their resignation to the Executive Committee
 - i. **The Exception:**
 1. VFMC officers serving in the Reserves or National Guard who are deployed for up to 60 days may retain their position so long as they identify a temporary replacement to the Executive Committee during their absence
 2. If no replacement is identified, or they are deployed for longer than 60 days, the Executive Committee will select a replacement
 3. Temporary replacements must be approved by a vote of the Executive Committee
 4. The Executive Committee will select a new replacement if the suggested temporary replacement fails vetting

These Bylaws shall be considered adopted upon a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Disclaimer

1. The DNC VMFC does not authorize any officer or member of the organization to speak with the media representing the DNC VMFC without prior authorization from the Executive Committee; Any violation of this policy is grounds for immediate dismissal at the discretion of the Executive Committee
2. The DNC VMFC strictly condemns any action taken by any member or officer of DNC VMFC that is not consistent with the principles and views of the Democratic Party; Such actions may be deemed grounds for dismissal at the discretion of the Executive Committee

3. While it is understandable and desirable that the DNC task the DNC VMFC from time to time, no actions should be planned or executed without prior briefing and the approval of the Executive Committee