



Department of



**South Carolina
The American Legion**
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SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS LINE

When we work together we all come out ahead.

Holiday Reminder

The Department Headquarters office will be closed from 8:30 a.m., Monday December 23 to 8:30 a.m. Monday December 30 for the Christmas holidays. The staff wishes each and every one a very Merry Christmas and asks that each be safe and sound over the holiday season. Let's not forget those young men and women who are serving our country in harms' way.

TRICARE

On December 12, 2013, the following statement was issued by Daniel M. Dellinger, National Commander of The American Legion:

“While The American Legion applauds the proposed National Defense Authorization Act’s prohibition against new TRICARE user fees and its limitation on raising existing fees, we strongly oppose any decrease in the annual cost of living allowance for veterans, retirees – who are also veterans – or their dependents and families. The men and women who have served our country honorably and well deserve to be treated in like fashion once they have hung up their uniforms. Few sacrifices as much as service members, most especially those who have devoted their careers at great personal cost to the safety and welfare of our nation.”

Mid-Winter Conference

The annual Mid-Winter Conference will be held Jan. 17-19, 2014 at the Myrtle Beach Hilton, Myrtle Beach, S.C. There will be various training given to those attending and it promises to be another great training weekend for all. We hope as many as can be possible to attend such meetings as there is a lot of information given out and everyone should be aware of it. Everyone is invited to attend and get the latest information pertaining to our organization and how it is to operate. It also is a time to see old acquaintances and to make new ones. Cut off date for Legion room rate is **December 16, 2013**.

National Convention

Plans are being made for the National Convention in 2014 to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina. If you have never been to a National Convention, this would be a great time to attend and let's show other departments that we are a great department and are there for our veterans, their families and their communities. There will be more information published as they become available.

Post Officer Listings

For those posts that have not submitted their current Post Officer listings, please do so as soon as possible. This means also that even though you may have the same officers in the same positions for the 2013-2014 year, you should also submit a listing to department. Also, for those that have email addresses, please indicate that on the listing. Your assistance and attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated.

LIT

Your South Carolina American Legion Department and the Legionnaire Insurance Trust (LIT) are constantly looking to improve the value of your membership. And, we have some exciting news to report!

Since 1966, the LIT has been offering a competitive, dependable package of insurance choices to protect Legionnaires and their family. Our goal is to continue serving Legion families for decades to come. With the future in mind, we are pleased to announce that effective January 1, 2014, the A+ rated Transamerica family of insurance companies will become the new provider for our Hospital Indemnity Protection and Cancer Care programs with additional programs to follow soon.

Transamerica is committed to serving South Carolina Legionnaires and their families with superior customer service that has made them an industry leader for over 100 years. Transamerica is also dedicated to staying ahead of your insurance needs in a changing world and will periodically update their coverage(s) to stay current with insurance laws and regulations as well as how healthcare is delivered. If you are one of the thousands of Legion families currently enrolled in these products, rest assured that the transition will be as simple as possible. All you have to do is pay your next bill and your coverage will continue. New products will be coming on board soon because of LIT's partnership with Transamerica and you will see these items offered to Your South Carolina American Legion Department in the coming months. We look forward to this new partnership with Transamerica, and to continuing our commitment of service and protection to you and your loved ones. **Note: This provider change does not apply to the "No Cost To You" Legion Care Accidental Death policy at this time. Please continue to apply via the enrollment form you can ask for at your post.**

CSID Enrollment

Starting October 24, 2013, South Carolina taxpayers impacted by last year's security breach at the SC Department of Revenue are able to enroll for up to one year of identity and credit protection coverage with CSID by visiting www.scidprotection.com or by calling 855-880-2743. Enrollment will remain open until October 1, 2014. "Eligible individuals are encouraged to enroll with this state-provided service to take advantage of the comprehensive array of identity and credit protections provided. CSID has a dedicated team working to ensure an overall successful enrollment process for the taxpayers of South Carolina," said Department of Revenue Director Bill Blume. South Carolina taxpayers, their dependents, and businesses who filed an electronic South Carolina tax return between 1998 and 2012 may be eligible for this coverage and are encouraged to enroll with CSID at the above email address or the above telephone number 24-hours a day, seven days a week. FMI Contact CSID or Helen Murphy, INK Public Relations for CSID 512-382-8988, csid@ink-pr.com

Sick Call

If one of your past post commanders or district commanders or present post or district commanders is listed on sick call then also please let me know.

Condolences

This would also be specific to past post, district or department commanders and/or spouses of those individuals.