# ARTICLE ONE
# DETACHMENT ORGANIZATION

## SECTION 100 - ORGANIZATION AND AUTHORITY

**A.** This organization shall be known as "Music City Detachment 378, Department of Tennessee, Marine Corps League."

**B.** The Official Seal of Music City Detachment 378 will consist of the Seal of the Marine Corps League with the words “Music City Detachment 378”, "Department of Tennessee" and "Marine Corps League" on separate lines in that respective order appearing below. Letterhead stationary may vary to improve the visual appeal.

**C.** The Unofficial Logo of the Music City Detachment 378 shall be a stylized banjo, consisting of the Seal of the Marine Corps League as the drum head, a neck and a tuning fret, with the numerals “378” appearing in the middle of the tuning fret. The neck and tuning fret may extend vertically or horizontally from the drum head, with the Seal always in or approximately in the normal (horizontal) orientation. The Unofficial Logo may be used in lieu of the Official Seal on stationary and publications unique to the Detachment.

**D.** The supreme legislative and policy making power of the Music City Detachment 378, Department of Tennessee, Marine Corps League shall be vested in the membership of the Detachment meeting in Regular Business Meetings.

**E.** In the period between Regular Business Meetings, the Detachment Board of Trustees shall have the responsibility and authority to conduct the business of the Detachment. Such actions shall conform to the provisions of these Bylaws, and shall be reported to the next Regular Business Meeting.

**SECTION 101 – DETACHMENT MEETINGS** – The Detachment shall normally meet once each calendar month, at a day and time to be determined by the membership. This will normally occur at the same time and on the same day (i.e. 1900 on the third Tuesday of the month) each month. Special meetings may be called by the Detachment Commandant or a majority of the Detachment Board of Trustees to deal with a specific issue. With the consent of the membership, the Regular Business Meeting for a particular month may be omitted to provide for special events, i. e. Installation Dinner, Dining In, etc. Normally, a minimum of ten Regular Business Meetings will be held each calendar year unless prevented by National Emergency, natural disaster, or other unpreventable cause. All Members in good standing are encouraged to attend any and all Regular Business Meetings. All members who are in good standing may, within the provisions of these Bylaws, be recognized to speak and debate on issues before that Meeting.

**SECTION 102 – CERTIFICATION** – It shall be the responsibility of the Detachment Adjutant-Paymaster to maintain an accurate roster of Members, and to be prepared to certify the standing of any Member for the purposes of participating in the Official Business of the Detachment. (See Article Five – Membership)

**SECTION 103 – VOTING**

**A.** **QUORUM** - A quorum for scheduled Regular Business Meeting shall consist of the members present.

**B.** **RESOLUTION** - Except as may be provided elsewhere in these Bylaws, a majority (over fifty percent [50%]) of those members voting shall resolve all issues and carry any measure.

**C.** **STYLE OF VOTING** – The usual style of voting shall be by voice vote (Aye or Nay), however, the Commandant may determine an actual count of votes is required for a specific vote, which shall be done by a count of raised hands, or members standing. When a count is performed, the final count of Ayes and Nays will be announced by the Commandant and entered into the Minutes.

**C.** **SECRET BALLOT** – Voting by Secret Ballot Voting will not normally be used. However, the Detachment Commandant may determine that a particular issue is significantly controversial or divisive, and may call for a Secret Ballot for that particular vote.

**SECTION 104 -- ELECTIVE OFFICERS** - The Detachment Officers to be elected each year are the Detachment Commandant, Detachment Senior Vice Commandant, Detachment Junior Vice Commandant and Detachment Judge Advocate. No individual member shall hold more than one Detachment Elective Office at any one time.

**SECTION 105 – APPOINTED OFFICERS** – The Detachment Officers to be appointed each year are the Detachment Adjutant-Paymaster, the Detachment Chaplain, the Detachment Sergeant-at-Arms. A Detachment Legislative Officer, Detachment Public Affairs Officer, Detachment Service Officer, Detachment VAVS Representative and Detachment Historian may also be appointed. Other Officers may be appointed by the Commandant, with the consent of the Board of Trustees, as may be required for the efficient and orderly conduct of the Detachment's Business. The term of office for all Appointed Detachment Officers shall expire at the end of the term of office of the Detachment Commandant. An individual member may hold more that one Appointed Office, or may hold an Elective Office and an Appointed Office.

## SECTION 106 – NOMINATION FOR ELECTIVE OFFICE

**A.** The Nominating Committee, when involked, will present a slate of one candidate for each elective office immediately prior to the Election of Officers.

**B.** The Chair will then announce each Elective Office individually, in the sequence listed in Section 104, giving the name of the candidate selected by the Nominating Committee, and solicit any additional nominations from the floor.

## SECTION 107 - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

**A.** The election of officers will normally be held at the January Regular Business Meeting, and shall be the last item of business on the agenda of that Meeting. In the event that the January Regular Business Meeting is not held, the Detachment Commandant may arrange for a Special Meeting for the sole purpose of holding the Election of Officers. If the Commandant is seeking reelection, the Chair will be turned over to another Member, normally a Past Commandant, to conduct the election.

**B.** Prior to the election, the Detachment Commandant will appoint an ad hoc committee to supervise the election process. The committee will consist of two or three Past Detachment Commandants, if possible.

**C.** The Election of Officers will be by normal voting, except that where there is only one nominee for a specific office, the Chair may entertain a motion for election by acclamation for that office.

**D.** Installation of Officers may occur immediately following the election, or it may be scheduled for a later time, such as an Installation Dinner. The outgoing (or reelected) Detachment Commandant is responsible to insure that the Installing Officials and other requirements of the National and Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures are met.

**SECTION 108 - TERM OF OFFICE** - All Detachment Officers shall be elected or appointed for a term of one (1) year, and may be reelected or reappointed without restriction.

**SECTION 109 - RIGHT TO SPEAK** - All members in good standing, when recognized by the Chair and not expressly prohibited by Bylaws, shall have the right to speak in any discussion or debate of the Detachment.

**SECTION 110 - RULES** - The National Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, the Department Bylaws and Administrative Procedures, the Detachment Bylaws shall govern the procedures of the Detachment Meetings. The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, shall govern the parliamentary procedures of all Detachment functions in all cases where they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent or in conflict with either the National, Department or Detachment Bylaws and Administrative Procedures.

**END OF ARTICLE ONE**