

HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER  
Department Order No. 17 Series 2015-2016



DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK  
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR



Honoring the memory of the Grand Army of the Republic &  
The Men from New York who saved the Union from 1861 to 1865.

<http://www.suvcw.org/ny/deptny.htm>

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**Department Order No. 17, Series 2015-2016**

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Department of New York,

1. President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed on October 20th, 1864 by Proclamation and appointment that the last Thursday in November be set apart to be observed by all citizens as a day of thanksgiving;

For President Lincoln proclaimed in his Proclamation that:

“It has pleased Almighty God to prolong our national life another year, defending us with His guardian care against unfriendly designs from abroad and vouchsafing to us in His mercy many and signal victories over the enemy, who is of our own household. It has also pleased our Heavenly Father to favor as well our citizens in their homes as our soldiers in their camps and our sailors on the rivers and seas with unusual health. He has largely augmented our free population by emancipation and by immigration, while He has opened to us new sources of wealth and has crowned the labor of our workingmen in every department of industry with abundant rewards. Moreover, He has been pleased to animate and inspire our minds and hearts with fortitude, courage, and resolution sufficient for the great trial of civil war into which we have been brought by our adherence as a nation to the cause of freedom and humanity, and to afford to us reasonable hopes of an ultimate and happy deliverance from all our dangers and afflictions.”

and he further stated that:

“to my fellow-citizens aforesaid that on that occasion they do reverently humble themselves in the dust and from thence offer up penitent and fervent prayers and supplications to the Great Disposer of Events for a return of the inestimable blessings of peace, union, and harmony throughout the land which it has pleased Him to assign as a dwelling place for ourselves and for our posterity throughout all generations.”

- a. In that same thanksgiving spirit let each brother and sister celebrate a good and happy Thanksgiving this Thursday, November 26th, 2015 with family, friends, and one another across our Department and let us all be thankful for all that we have.
- b. As you give thanks around your dinner table let us remember to be thankful for our veteran ancestors and all veterans and serving military who have given their all in serving our country.

This Order is so ordered on this 25th day of November, 2015 in Fraternity Charity, & Loyalty,

Raymond W. LeMay III, PCC  
Commander, Department of New York, SUVCW

Attest:

Robert L. Pugsley, PDC  
Secretary, Department of New York, SUVCW