



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. 1861-1865.
<http://nysuvcw.org>

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Richard E. Straight, DC
88 Cindy Crest Drive
Rotterdam, New York 12306-3411
(518) 344-7773 ~ restraight1@gmail.com

HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER

Department Communication No. 6, Series 2019-2020
April 2, 2020

Brother Commanders and Secretaries,

Please read for details and disseminate to the Brothers in your Camp.

I hope this communication finds you all safe and secure in this time of our national emergency. As you are all aware the Department Encampment schedule for June 5th and 6th has been in jeopardy due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the CDC guidelines governing attendance. I have been in contact with Brother Albanese, chairmen of the Encampment Committee trying to assess the situation in relation to the location and timing of our Encampment. Three weeks ago Brother Albanese contacted the Daughters regarding the encampment, and we collectively decided to wait out the 15 days set by the President and see where we would be at the end of that time. That was three weeks ago, and as you all know, no one realized the speed and magnitude of this deadly disease. So, due to the present situation we have decided to cancel the venue for our encampment. We will make adjustments as needed and proceed in having the 137th Department of New York Encampment via teleconferencing. We are in uncharted waters, and we have to realize that this encampment will be like no other.

If you have been following the National's General Orders, we still need to have our annual Encampment and have until the 30th of June to do

so. This leaves teleconferencing our Encampment as our only alternative in complying to National Regulation. We will still hold the date of June 5th & 6th for our 137th Department Encampment. Zoom Video Communication will be used and can be accessed by laptop, desktop and both I phones and android phones. Laptop or desktop work best as long as you have camera and microphone capabilities, according to Brother Albanese who has the Zoom Pro-Version, it will allow up to 100 participants with a 24 hour window limit for a meeting. More members might attend via zoom, since no travel or overnight is involved.

At this time Brothers, I would ask that you continue to inform brothers in your camp as to where we are at this point. We do have 9 weeks to prepare for our Encampment, I will be sending out more information as we move forward.

Stay safe, and pray for our Country.

In Fraternity, Charity, & Loyalty
Richard E. Straight, Commander
Department of New York, SUVCW