

## **Resolution No. 201**

### **SAFETY CONTEST GUIDELINES**

WHEREAS, the 1<sup>st</sup> Responders in our community, our county, our state and across the country are not only professionals such as Police Officers, Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians/Paramedics who you may see when you call for help in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, the initial 1<sup>st</sup> Responder is the 911 Tele-Communicator (dispatcher). These professionals are the people you talk to when you dial 911 because of an emergency. These people are highly trained to handle any size of emergency or any crisis that comes to them; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we petition the VFW National Council to change the safety contest guideline by making a 4<sup>th</sup> category in the contest, the categories being police, firefighter, EMS, 911 tele-communicator so that 911 Tele-Communicators may receive the recognition they deserve.

Submitted by Department of Pennsylvania  
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

**Resolution No. 202**

**ADDITION OF EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD)  
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL (HAZMAT) SPECIALIST  
TO THE PUBLIC SERVANT NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Public Servant National Awards Program currently recognizes Emergency Medical Technicians (services), Law Enforcement, and Firefighter Personal, it fails to recognize two (2) specialized Public Servants that when called to respond risk their lives to protect and ensure the safety of others; and

WHEREAS, modern technology makes the world stage increasingly more dangerous to live in; and

WHEREAS, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians protect the public by performing land and underwater location, identification and render-safe all types of ordnance; and

WHEREAS, the Hazardous Material Specialist perform identification, and clean-up of hazardous materials to include toxic chemicals, fuels, nuclear waste products, and biological, chemical and radiological agents that pose a risk to health, property or the environment; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we recognize these courageous technicians for their service, by including the Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Hazardous Material Specialist to the National Public Servant National Awards Program.

Submitted by Department of Pacific Areas  
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION

## Resolution No. 203

### FUNDRAISING SUPPORT THROUGH FACEBOOK SOCIAL MEDIA SITE

WHEREAS, the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code § 501(c) identifies not-for-profit organizations for special tax-exempt consideration given their charitable, community service, religious, or other special purposes and status; and

WHEREAS, the IRS Code § 501(c) offers nearly two dozen separate categories for such not-for-profit organizations, including 501(c)3 for charities and 501(c)19 for veterans' organizations; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW), as stated in its Congressional Charter, include the execution of charitable and educational programs; and

WHEREAS, the VFW is certified by the IRS as a 501(c)19 not-for-profit organizations; and

WHEREAS, the COVID pandemic has severely hampered in-person fund-raising activities thereby negatively impacting the VFW's primary source of funds and negatively impacting its ability to fulfill VFW tasks of assisting needy veterans, their surviving spouses or orphans, providing educational scholarships to middle and high-school students; and

WHEREAS, the social networking website Facebook (parent company Meta) offers a charitable fundraising vehicle on their site, but makes it available only to charitable organizations certified as 501(c)3; and

WHEREAS, given Facebook's ubiquity, their policy to deny IRS-certified 501(c)19 veterans organizations from availing themselves of Facebook's fundraising tools directly inhibits the VFW's ability to meet its mandates, denies needy veterans and survivors essential morale-enhancing and quality-of-life support, and reduces services such as scholarship programs to local communities; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, that we meet with Facebook and/or Meta leadership at the soonest opportunity to craft permissions and procedures whereby the use of Facebook's charitable fundraising tools is permitted to the VFW and its subordinate organizations, as registered and certified 501(c)19 not-for-profit organizations.

Submitted by Department of Virginia  
To Committee on FINANCE & INTERNAL ORGANIZATION