

First State Detachment, Inc.

Marine Corps League

P.O. Box 434 • Ocean View, DE 19970-0434

5 March 2013



From: Commandant
To: Members, First State Detachment
Subj: Life Membership Policy Statement

At the 20February 2013 Leadership Meeting, I introduced a subject to the Leadership Team dealing with the never ending issue of recruiting, retaining or recovering members. This has been an ongoing issue, not only for this Detachment, but for the Marine Corps League as a whole. Our National Commandant, Jim Tuohy, wrote about this subject in his National Commandant's Letter in the Jan - Feb 2013 issue of the "Marine Corps League" bi-monthly magazine.

The First State Detachment has not been immune to this topic. Lately, we have seen our membership roster stagnate at a membership level of about 140 regular, associate and Life members. This has boded well for the Detachment and has kept us at the head of the other detachments in term of sustained membership. However, recently, many of our members have, for whatever reasons(s), fallen into an unpaid or in-arrears status. This is unsatisfactory. As of the 1st of January of this year, we had approximately 20 Marines out of the 140 in this category—14%.

The Detachment has initiated a program whereby the Junior Vice Commandant and Paymaster have begun contacting these members either by phone, in person or through written correspondence, in an attempt to bring them up to a "member in good standing" status, i.e., dues paid.

As a result of the 23February meeting, which was unanimously supported by the Leadership Team, and ratified at the Membership meeting held on 27February2013, I introduced the following

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

which goes into effect immediately. In order to qualify for this Life Membership Award, all Marines must qualify in ALL categories.

1. Active membership in 1st State Detachment for a minimum of 5 years.
2. Dues current for each of these 5 years, paid on-time and without going into late category.
3. Attend 76% of monthly meetings (9 of 12). Waiver at Commandant's discretion for extenuating circumstances.
4. Attend one Department Quarterly meeting each of the 5 years.
5. Volunteer a minimum of 30 hours EVERY year of 5 year period (member to maintain hour log with event OIC's signature)

OR

Serve as a Committee Chairperson for 4 of the 5 years.

Finally, any Marine recognized as the Marine of the Year is awarded Life Membership.

This policy is effective as of 1March2013.

Stephen F. Siltman, Commandant

"ONCE A MARINE ALWAYS A MARINE"

Web Site: www.firststatemarines.org