

RICHARD H. STEWART, JR AMERICAN LEGION POST 543 ETHICS POLICY 011

The purpose of the Richard H. Stewart Jr. American Legion Post 543 Ethics Policy 013 is to chart a course for the honorable manner of conducting business and provides standards by which to judge the transgressor. Individuals who purport to act in the name of the Post should aspire by their conduct to rise above minimum standards, bearing in mind that the respect and confidence of the American Legion. Ethics, is not all-inclusive. However, it focuses upon certain general ethical standards that must be adhered to by those holding elected or appointed offices.

Elected officials, as guardians of the reputation and property of the Post, and any other member or official representative, both past and present, play vital roles in the preservation and advancement of the Post. The fulfillment of these roles requires an understanding of their relationship with the Post, its membership, and those with whom the Post engages in professional, business, social, community, governmental, and other meaningful activities. An important obligation of all who act for and/or on behalf of the Post is to maintain and adhere to the highest standards of ethical conduct.

Elected or appointed officers) must never participate, either personally or substantively through another, as a Post 543 representative, through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation, or otherwise, in a determination, contract, claim, controversy, or other particular matter in which, to their knowledge, they have a financial interest. Furthermore, this includes the Post officers spouse, and/or other member of their immediate family or household, partner, organization in which they are serving as an officer, or any person with whom they are negotiating or have any arrangement concerning prospective employment, has a financial interest.

The officers and members who are elected or appointed have the responsibility for deciding whether each individual should be chosen, based upon consideration of all relevant factors, including the nature of the relationship with the employee, consultant, or paid representative. The Executive Committee shall determine if a members perceived conflict poses a risk to the Post.

Post and Executive Committee members will not enter into business discussions, to include negotiation proposals or possibilities, with those with whom the Post does business or when a viable possibility exists that a business relationship may develop.

Disciplinary action, after review and approval of the Executive Committee, may consist of measures including but not limited to those listed below. In determining appropriate actions, the Executive Committee should give strong consideration to the recommendations of the Post Commander, or other agent(s) of the American Legion.

Types of disciplinary action that can be recommended for approval include, in ascending order of severity:

- 1) Censure (written or verbal, private or public).
- 2) Removal from office.
- 3) Removal from the membership rolls.

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- 4) Referral to legal counsel for initiation of a lawsuit.
- 5) Referral to civilian authorities for criminal prosecution.

APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS

Approval and Amendment History	Details
Original Approval Authority	Post Membership
Original Approval Date	2-25-26
Policy Administrator	Post Adjutant
Amendment Cycle	Bi Annual
Amendment Date	
Amendment Date	
Amendment Date	