

**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War  
General Orders No. 15  
Series 1997-1998  
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July 1, 1998**

1. The following ruling has been issued in response to an inquiry from the Department of Michigan:
2. The question: Is a former member who was discharged and subsequently plead guilty to embezzlement eligibility for reinstatement.
3. The Constitution states that anyone who has committed an "infamous" or "heinous crime" is not eligibility for membership.
4. What constitutes "infamous and heinous crimes" is the crux of the matter. According to my dictionary the law definition of infamous is "convicted of a crime, as treason or a felony, that brings infamy." To the best of my knowledge, embezzlement is a felony in all jurisdictions within the United States. Based on the definition of "infamous" the applicant is not eligible for reinstatement regardless if he has served his sentence. He was convicted that ends his eligibility. There is no provision for an exception if any sentence imposed by a court has been served.

By Order of  
Richard D. Orr  
Commander-in-Chief

Attested:  
David Hann  
National Secretary

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[Return to](#) Index of General Orders

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