



Sons of Union Veterans of The Civil War

Office of the Commander-in-Chief

Ken L. Freshley
4287 Windsor Avenue
Willoughby , Ohio 44094
cinc@suvcw.org



General Order #10
SERIES 2013-2014
7 January 2014

Brothers,

I was asked for a decision for a question that is not directly covered by our Constitution and Regulations.

The question was asked:

If a Brother resigns when he is currently suspended and /or is under disciplinary proceedings, what is the course of action for the disciplinary hearing council ? Can they not accept the resignation?

I requested a formal opinion from the National Counselor and his Opinion #5 states:

That a Brother has resigned from the Order, while under suspension; The Hearing Council should be dissolved. As he is no longer a member, the Order has no Jurisdiction over him. A Department Order should be issued stating that the Hearing Council is dissolved and state the reason why.

The Department Order should also state that the Brother resigned while under suspension and that because of this, the only way that he could return to the ranks of the SUVCW would be upon the approval of the Camp to which he belonged at the time of his suspension/resignation AND with the approval of a majority vote of the Department Encampment. This Department Order will remain as a record in the Department history and serve as what is required for the individual to return to the SUVCW.

I fully agree and support this opinion and will add my own comments;

First item, we are not a law enforcement agency and do not have jurisdiction over individuals outside of our Order. When a Member resigns, we receive his resignation; we do not accept it, vote on it or reject it.

Second item, all items of this situation should be well documented as to provide the future Brothers the required information if such an individual tries to return to the SUVCW, so they will have the proper information to make an informed decision.

Lastly Department or Camp Orders need to be issued to dissolve the hearing council and state the restrictions for returning to the Order, in accordance with our C & R - National Regulations, Chapter 5, Article 6 , Section 25.

Ordered this 7th day of January, 2014.

Ken L. Freshley
Commander-In-Chief
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Attest:
Alan Russ, Secretary, National Order
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War