Statement on Phone Calls
Jan 3, 2019

On 3 Jan 2019 at 1721, I placed a call to Commander Steve Mueller. There was no answer and I didn't leave a message. I then placed a call to the Adjutant/Quartermaster Stephanie Pino at 1723, and there was also no answer. I did not leave a message. I then called State Commander Conley at 1726 and informed her that I had called both individuals and there was no answer. I also informed her that I had not left a message for either one of them. The State Commander instructed me to try to call Commander Mueller again later in the evening and if I had no answer, then to try on Friday to make contact with him.

I place a call at 1812 to Commander Mueller and he answered. I informed him that I had received a letter from the State Commander directing me to do an audit on the Pleasanton Post 12162. He then stated that the post membership voted to go through a lawyer in dealing with District or Department. He stated that he has been instructed not to talk to me by the Post Lawyer and that if I had any questions, I should contact the Post Lawyer. He then stated that he understood that I was doing what the State Commander had directed me to do, but that I as a District Commander had no authority or power to do anything anyway. He also stated that the State Commander was going to be "served" this week or next week. I didn't inquire as to why the State Commander was going to be "served" and kindly thanked him for his cooperation. He again stated that he could not talk to me as directed by the Post Lawyer. He said he would send me the contact information for the Post Lawyer so I could talk to him, and that all correspondence with Pleasanton Post 12162 will only be through the Post Lawyer. I said thank you and that was the end of the conversation.

Immediately after hanging up the phone with Commander Mueller, at 1814, I called the State Commander and informed her of the conversation and that Commander Mueller had stated that she would be "served" sometime this week or next week. I was instructed to make no further contact with Commander Mueller and that I was to wait for further instruction from the State Commander.

All the conversations above were witnessed by Commander Larry Sanders as I had my phone on speaker during all conversations.

John E. Shipley
District 20 Commander

Larry Sanders
Commander, Post 12041