Statement on Phone Calls
Jan 4, 2019

January 4th, 2019 I, John E. Shipley, District 20 Commander received an email from Dan West, State Adjutant/Quartermaster with Special Order Numbers 12, 13 and 14. These special orders relieved the Commander and Adjutant/Quartermaster of Pleasanton Post 12162 and put the post in a 90 day suspension.

At 1722, I called Commander Steve Mueller to inform him of his removal by Special Order Number 13 issued by the State Commander. There was no answer so I left a message for him to contact me.

At 1723, I called Adjutant/Quartermaster Stephanie Pino to inform her of her removal by Special Order Number 12 issued by the State Commander. There was no answer and no voice mail, so I left no message.

At 1724, I called the Senior Vice Commander Lance Yaws to inform him of the removal of the Post Commander and Adjutant/Quartermaster. I also informed him of Special Order Number 14 which put the post in a 90 day suspension. I informed him that the State Commander had appointed an Administrative Committee to overseen the post while it was in suspension. He voiced his concerns about his ability to be commander of the post, I let him know that the District would provide any training and assistance to help him in being post commander. He stated that he would wait to get the official notification in the mail. He also stated that he would call the Junior Vice Commander and advise them of the situation. I agreed and told him the District would provide any assistance that the post and he may need.

At 1729, I called the State Commander Inge Conley and informed her of my actions and that I had tried to contact the Commander and Adjutant/Quartermaster about the special orders and their removal from office and had gotten no answer for either of them. I also informed her of my conversation with the new commander Lance Yaws.

At 1807, I received a call from Steve Mueller, asking "What's up?" I told him I had a special order from the State Commander that I needed to read to him. I read the special order word for word. He then stated that the State Commander did not know what she was doing. He said that there was no due process and that the members of the post had voted to do a class action law suit on the Department of Texas VFW and State Commander Conley. He also stated that the Post Lawyer had my name also. I stated that I was only informing him of the special order and that he would receive it by certified mail on Monday. He then stated, "I guess I will do what I do best". I said thank you very much and hung up.

At 1812, I called the State Commander to inform her of the conversation I had had with Steve Mueller and that he was notified of the special order removing him from office as Commander of Post 12162.

At 1916, I received a call from Stephanie Pino. She said she heard that I had something for her. I informed her that the State Commander had issued a Special Order and I read it to her verbatim on her

removal from office. She stated that she would appeal the removal and be filing charges against me. I said thank you and have a nice day and ended the conversation.

At 1937, I called the State Commander and informed her of the conversation I had with Stephanie Pino on the special order and her removal from office as the Adjutant/Quartermaster of post 12162.

All these conversations were on speaker phone and were witnessed by the following VFW members; Don Palmer, Gene McKee and Buddy Szulewski.

John E. Shipley
District 20 Commander

Don Palmer

Gene McKee

Buddy Szulweski