American Legion National Commander issues condolences to Las Vegas shooting victims

INDIANAPOLIS (October 2, 2017) American Legion National Commander Denise H. Rohan issued the following statement regarding last night’s mass shooting in Las Vegas.

“Our heartfelt prayers and support are with the victims and the families of those affected by this horrific attack,” Rohan said. “There is never any justification for such an evil and despicable act upon innocent civilians. We commend the first responders for their bravery and we hope that every person responsible for this crime is brought to justice.”

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Media contacts: John Raughter (317) 630-1253/ 317-441-8847 (cell), jraughter@legion.org

On behalf of the Department of New Hampshire we also extend our condolences to those who died and were affected in any way due to the actions of a coward. Please keep them in your prayers and thoughts.

Cost of Being a Member of The American Legion

Let’s look at a Post that charges it members $35.00 a year.

1. Dues for One Year $35.00
2. Dues for one month $2.916666666666667
3. Dues for 1 week $0.6730769230769232
4. Dues for 1 day $0.0961538461538462
5. Dues for one hour $0.0040064102564103

These numbers are close but not exact as some months have 28 days and some have 31 days.

You would have to give up roughly 14 beers at $2.50 in the canteen for a year. Being a Legion member allows you to buy beer cheap.

Go to an outside bar or restaurant and try to get the beer for $2.50.
You would have to give up approximately 11.86 Café Latte’s each year at Starbucks costing $2.95 each.

You would have to give up close to 6.6 Big Mac’s each year at a cost of $5.30 each.

Supporting your brother and sister veterans and those still serving.

Most importantly, the satisfaction of belonging to the greatest veteran’s organization in the country!!

**Department Service Office**

Curt Lenz, Department Service Officer  
Michael Hartt, Assistant Service Officer

As of October 1, we have two full-time Service Officers working in our Department Service Office. The Service Office is also now open Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Both Curt and Michael are still training but are at the same time taking claims and assisting veterans with their questions and needed support referrals.

Again I would also like to put a big shout out to Hans Michalke from the Department of Utah, who came to New Hampshire the first week of this month to help both Curt and Mike with their training and continue moving the forward in getting our Service Office on the right track and eventually better than ever.

If you see Curt or Mike please give those a big Department of New Hampshire welcome.

**National Rolls out Media Kit**

National staff members have prepared a System Worth Saving media kit for posts/departments to use before and during these events. We appreciate your participation and welcome any feedback about the media kit for your event next month.

The resources can be found here: [www.legion.org/systemworthsaving/resources](http://www.legion.org/systemworthsaving/resources).

**SYSTEM WORTH SAVING**

**INTRODUCTION**

This media kit is designed to help local posts and departments of The American Legion successfully promote System Worth Saving visits and town hall meetings in their VA health-care communities. These events are excellent opportunities to build public awareness through the media about The American Legion and its advocacy on behalf of veterans and their families.

American Legion-coordinated SWS visits and town hall gatherings through the years have helped veterans gain unobstructed access to VA care, voice concerns about quality and timeliness of care, receive earned benefits that were caught in the backlog, and hold VA management and staff accountable to their mission.

This SWS guide and materials aim to bring to these special events the most important ingredients: veterans and their families.

Among the helpful resources offered here to promote your local SWS visit and town hall gathering are:

- A timeline to help guide you through the promotion process.
- Templates you can customize and update with local information about your SWS event,
to augment separate releases from National Headquarters to local media. (It’s OK to duplicate efforts because the goal is to increase external outreach via local/city/state media contacts.)

- A message points sheet to provide you with talking points for interviews with local media.
- Recommended Facebook and Twitter posts that can be used at the state and local levels.

If you tag @AmericanLegion in your posts, national staff will gladly repost or retweet your message, drawing more attention to your event.

Visit www.legion.org/systemworthsaving/resources to download these templates.

If you have questions, or want to provide feedback about this media kit, please contact any of the following American Legion national staff members:

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Thank you for your dedication in making your System Worth Saving visit and town hall a success.

**Department Legion College**

I would like to recognize all those who attended our 1st annual Department Legion College which was held this last weekend here at Department Headquarters. We had 23 legionnaires who attended from different Posts and positions. It is the intent of the Department to hold this college annually and want it to continue to grow and get better. We learned a lot of things as to what to include and not to include and make changes to benefit the student and learning environment.

So I hope to see more people at next year’s college and of course the learning does not stop there. We will continue to bring training opportunities to those who want to take advantage of them and hope this will get other members to get involved in the offices of their Posts, Districts, and Department.

A big thanks to all who taught and to the Training committee and Lisa Buck-Rogers for her guidance and making this college happen.
MILITARY FAMILY DAY

MILITARY AND CIVILIAN FAMILIES WELCOME!

Meet our local military and enjoy a fun-filled day!

Sunday, October 8, 2017, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Redhook Brewery, Portsmouth, NH

For tickets and more information visit seacoastsalutes.com.
Tickets also available at the gate.

General adult admission: $8
Families: $20
Veterans: FREE

Kids 12 and under: FREE
Military and their dependents: FREE

Please Post