



Los Angeles County Council

Executive Meeting

March 18, 2026

Bob Hope Patriotic Hall

1. Meeting called to order with ritual at 6:17pm by Commander La Sala, with a quorum being declared.
2. Roll call of officers by LACC Adjutant
3. Introduction of distinguished guests by LACC Commander. Dept. Chaplain Cash, PDC Van Kuran, PANEC Brown.
4. Officers:

A) Service Officer	Steve V. Ramirez
B) Adjutant	Robert C. Brown
C) Treasurer	Gil Soto
D) Judge Advocate	Hugh E. Crooks Jr.
E) Chaplain	Dave Whalen
F) Vice Commander for Women	Rosio Palmero
G) Vice Commander Area 4	George Aguilar
H) Vice Commander Area 6	Auggie Galaviz

District Commanders:

1. District 17	Alex Herrera
2. District 18	Sam Cafiero
3. District 19	Karl Wilvert
4. District 20	Johnnie McDowell
5. District 23	Gregory Tayler
6. District 24	Kevin Niles

LACC Vice Commanders:

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. District 17 | OPEN |
| 2. District 18 | Irvin Flores |
| 3. District 19 | Fernando Gallardo |
| 4. District 20 | Larry Van Kuran |
| 5. District 23 | James A. Hadley |
| 6. District 24 | Melissa Orduna |

Executive Committee:

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. District 17 | Johnny Harris |
| 2. District 18 | OPEN |
| 3. District 19 | Angelo Maldonado |
| 4. District 20 | OPEN |
| 5. District 23 | James H. Wilson |
| 6. District 24 | OPEN |

Commander Report: Motion to approve the last meeting minutes by Manny Vital. 2nd by Rocio Palmero. Motion passed. Attended the DEC. LACC was mentioned on several occasions about the good work that is being done. Need phone numbers for the text distribution for meetings and general information. Audit will be in May. A lot of offline discussions about the LACC happenings. Post 272 needs to pay back the loan for their Commanders night. Buddy Muster 4/21 to Post 291@ 0900.

Service Officer Report: We continue to support veterans here state side and from around the world. Continuing training of the new VSO at Post 272. No additional funds are being requested. VSO at large has received her PIV card. 4 VSO have passed their TRIP. Working on them getting accreditation. Long Beach VA will be opening their doors to us. Danielle and Carl will have access in Long Beach. Opening doors in La Verne at a DP center and DPSS center. Trying to get into East LA College as a location. We have a total of 8 VSO's. Department has 5 VSO's. Updates: VA is going to start using AI (Artificial Intelligence) to define the DBQ's. Looking for embellishments in claims. Courts upheld that veterans can claim both types of GI Bill benefits (Montgomery & Post 9/11). Hollywood Canteen Fund distribution of \$750 for needed repairs (water heater). A fiduciary was assigned to ensure funds were distributed correctly.

Adjutant: Reported that the LACC website is up and running. All reports will be posted on the LACC website.

Treasurer Report: Handed out the Finance Report for February 2026. Attached for viewing. Will be looking at moving our funds from the Chase general account to a more aggressive interest gaining account.

Judge Advocate: No report

Chaplain: No Sick call. Past Commander Floyd Martin has passed away. Please report all Post Everlasting before the day of the meeting so that they may be included in the report. E. Paul Ball from Area 1 passed away.

Vice Commander for women: Written report submitted. Attended various events in the State. Need to continue to support Post chaplains and ALL Women Veterans. Orange Post held a gathering for Women Veterans and it was well celebrated.

District Commander Reports:

District 17 – Gave report at General Meeting.

District 18 – Attended DEC. Attended Detachment 2nd Sunday virtual meeting. SAL National Commander visit to Post 180 (Breakfast) and 790 (Dinner) with the National President.

District 19 – No report

District 20 – Attended the DEC. All posts in the district participated in St. Patrick's Day. Post 377 will sponsor horseback riding for veterans for free. New ALR Chapter 520/377.

District 23- Recognition Dinner in May for Area 4 honorees.

District 24 – National President will be at Post 46. PDC Romano will be interned 3/21 at LA National and reception at Post 46. Women's History Month presentation on 3/23 @ the District meeting by Rocio Palmero. Flyers to be posted online.

LACC Vice Commanders:

District 17 – No report

District 18 – No report

District 19 - No report

District 20 – Burbank Post 150 is off suspension.

District 23 - No report

District 24 - No report

LACC Executive Committee:

District 17 – No report

District 18 - No report

District 19 - No report

District 20 - No report

District 23 - No report

District 24 - No report

Committee/Commissions:

Hall of Fame: Sam Cafiero No further report. List of names will be posted on line. May is Hall of Fame night.

A plaque for the family will be presented at the May meeting. New name plates will be posted on the wall as well. 2017-Present needs to be updated.

Committee:

Districts 17 – Ozan Evans

District 18 – Dave Whalen

District 19 – Manny Vital

District 20 – Julio Jimenez

District 23 – Robert C. Brown

District 24 – Rosio Palmero

Membership: Manny Vital

Department made goal of 87%. We are 46th in Nation. Membership report posted online. Do not hold onto transmittals. Get them turned in ASAP.

Resolutions: Scott Sinclair

No report

Constitution & By Laws: Scott Sinclair

Scott passed out a proposed new set of by laws with proposed changes. To be read at General Meeting for 1st reading.

Personnel : **Larry Van Kuran** Spoke about the Adjutant position for LACC. Scott and Bobby left the room.

Baseball:

Legion Baseball fundraiser May 2nd in Seal Beach. \$1250 for a table. Julie will come and speak to us about sponsorship.

LACC Website:

Website is up and running.

Old Business: None

New Business: Motion to rescind the motion for \$300 a month allotment for snacks for Vets at WLAVSO Office by Larry Van Kuran. 2nd by Steve Ramirez. Motion passed.

Good of the Legion: Next DEC is in Merced end of July. Flyer passed out. Capitol Advocacy Day in Sacramento is May 27. Flyer passed out and posted online. Jere Romano services on 3/21 at LA National. 3/19 Post 252 will have a breakfast. Dept Commander will be attending 19th District on April 8th. March 28-29 Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans in Whittier @ Victory Plaza. March 29th is Department Oratorical in Fresno.

Happy Birthday to American Legion – 107 years & Steve Ramirez March 8th

Next meeting : April 3rd Post 359 Norwalk – Candidate Night.

No further business to come before the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm by Commander La Sala.

Respectfully submitted

Scott Sinclair

LACC Assistant Adjutant

L A C C EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
DISTRICT 18 COMMANDER

Attended and drove to D.E.C. in
Vacaville California. Able to sight see
along the 5 South & 5 North and
Northern California.

Attended the online Detachment of California
Sons of the American Legion 2nd Sundays

Topics covered Nominations & elections.

SAMUEL CAJERO

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
LOS ANGELES COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 18,2026
CHAPLAINS REPORT**

- Sick Bay - None
- Post Everlasting – Past Department Commander Floyd Martin



AMERICAN LEGION – DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

CAPITOL ADVOCACY DAY MAY 27, 2026 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

THE AMERICAN LEGION-DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA WILL BE HOSTING ITS CAPITOL ADVOCACY DAY IN SACRAMENTO ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2026. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LEGIONNAIRES TO VISIT STATE LEGISLATORS AND THEIR STAFF TO ADVOCATE AND EDUCATE ON IMPORTANT VETERANS ISSUES.

THE STATE CAPITOL BUILDING IS UNDERGOING A MULTI-YEAR REMODEL. THE GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR, AND LEGISLATORS ARE CURRENTLY HOUSED IN THE CAPITOL ANNEX SWING SPACE, ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF THE WEST END OF CAPITOL PARK. THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE, ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE SWING SPACE. WE WILL BE IN THE 1ST FLOOR AUDITORIUM.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND BUFFET LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT. PLEASE WEAR YOUR HATS! SHOW THE LEGISLATURE THAT THE LEGION IS ACTIVE AND INVOLVED.

WHEN: MAY 27, 2026 (WEDNESDAY)

8:30 AM: DOORS OPEN; MINGLING/NETWORKING, COFFEE, PASTRIES

9:00 AM: PROGRAM STARTS

3:30 PM: EVENT ENDS

WHERE: MARCH FONG EU SECRETARY OF STATE BUILDING

1500 11TH ST, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

(ENTRANCE ON THE SOUTH/WEST CORNER OF 11TH AND O STREETS)

1ST FLOOR AUDITORIUM: MUST SHOW DRIVER'S LICENSE OR CA ID CARD TO ENTER

PARKING:

- **DGS PUBLIC GARAGE, 1500 10TH ST. 200 YARDS FROM EVENT.**
WEDNESDAY RATE: \$8.00 (IF IN BEFORE 8:30 AM).
- **CAPITOL GARAGE, 915 L STREET (10TH AND L STREETS). 0.43 MILES FROM EVENT.**
ENTRANCE ON 10 STREET, WHICH IS ONE-WAY GOING NORTH
WEEKDAY RATES (6 A.M. TO 5 P.M.); \$1.50 EACH HALF HOUR; \$30 DAILY MAXIMUM

MUST RSVP TO ATTEND, SEATING IS LIMITED.

OPEN TO THE FIRST 50 LEGIONNAIRES TO RSVP.

ATTENDANCE FOR THIS EVENT IS LIMITED BECAUSE OF SEATING SPACE.

To RSVP: PLEASE EMAIL DANA NICHOL danan@water-warrior.com with the following information:

1. Your first and last name
2. City/town you reside in
3. Post

If you have signed up, but end up not being able to make it, please let us know so we can open a seat for another Legionnaire: danan@water-warrior.com

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREPARE FOR AMERICAN LEGION CAPITOL ADVOCACY DAY

Determine who your legislators are:

The afternoon portion of this event is meant for attendees to visit Assemblymembers and Senators that represent the area you reside in. Each Californian is represented by one Assemblymember and one Senator. By law, each of the state's 80 Assembly districts must contain an equal number of people, which currently means there are about 465,000 people per Assembly member. Each of the state's 40 Senate districts contains about 930,000 people. Therefore, Assembly and Senate districts don't follow symmetrical lines, they instead conform to population density. Therefore, to find out who your elected officials are, you need to search by your address:

<https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>

On Capitol Advocacy Day, there will be folders provided with information about the Legion and position papers on key legislative issues of importance to veterans, servicemembers, and their dependents. Since there will be multiple veterans from some legislator's districts, it will be necessary for each attendee to try to coordinate with other attendees during lunch so they can team up to visit those legislators as a group. There is no clean way to accomplish this because of conflicting times and overlapping Assembly and Senate districts, but the goal is to have at least one veteran visit each office. Also, since this event is in Northern California, most attendees will be from regions near Sacramento. Most legislators are from Southern California, and it is imperative that as many of them as possible are visited by a veteran.

Therefore, after visiting their Assembly and Senate offices, we encourage attendees to also visit some offices that would not otherwise be visited. It is important to visit your locally elected representatives, but that does not preclude any veteran from visiting any legislator on behalf of the organization they belong to or on behalf of all veterans in the state. All legislators will be voting on veteran legislation at some point in the legislative process.

What to say to a legislator or staff-person when you visit them?

Introduce yourself as a veteran who is at the Capitol as part of the annual American Legion Capitol Advocacy Day. If you are visiting one of your own legislators, mention where you live. If you are visiting a legislator from outside of where you live, mention that you are a member of a statewide veterans organization that is visiting the Capitol as part of its advocacy day.

Present the folder by using the folder's contents as talking points. You can also talk about issues you feel are important to veterans in general such as education, housing, jobs, homelessness, etc. If it is a local legislator, offer yourself as a resource to the legislator and his or her staff on any veterans issues they may need input or assistance on in the future. You can also invite them to post meetings, Veterans Day parades, Memorial Day events, or any other functions you have.

Tips for Success:

- Be brief – legislators' time is limited (5-10 minutes)
- Share your personal story – real experiences resonate
- Ask for their position on veteran issues
- Leave your contact information as a resource
- Don't worry about being perfect – they want to hear from real veterans

What to Bring:

Photo ID, comfortable walking shoes, business cards (optional), notepad/pen for notes, your Legion cap/etc

Department Executive Committee Meeting – July 30 – August 2, 2026

MEETING LOCATION:

Merced Post 83
939 W Main St, Merced, CA 95340-4518

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Location:

El Capital Hotel
609 W Main St, Merced, CA 95340
(209) 383-1234

Reservations:

Please call the hotel directly to make your reservation.

Rates:

King Room: \$130 per night
Double Room: \$155 per night

Parking:

- Free self parking available
- Valet parking available for \$15 per night

Check-In / Check-Out:

Check-In: 3:00 PM
Check-Out: 11:00 AM

LACC Report 3/18/2026

1/9	VFW Dinner
1/10	Area 6 Caucus
1/19	Chaplain Meeting
1/24	Virtual DEC
1/26	District 24 American Legion Post 46
1/29	American Legion Post 309 Holiday
2/6	Four Chaplain in Sanger, CA
2/9	CA Commission on the Status of Women
2/9	Mindset Monday
2/18	Veteran's Advisory Commission
2/18	LACC Executive
2/21	Bob Hope Gala
2/27	Women's Celebration at Orange Post
2/28	Janice Fundraiser
3/13-3-15	DEC Vacaville
3/16	Chaplain Meeting
3/18	Attended Veteran Advisory Commission

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY COUNCIL
MONTHLY REPORT FOR February 2026**

Morgan Stanley				
Investment Value Beginning Feb	<u>\$1,120,615.49</u>			
Investment Value Ending Feb	<u>\$1,155,754.02</u>			
Change in Value +/-	<u>\$35,138.53</u>			

General Account				
Balance Forwarded Beginning Feb		\$38,464.75		
Dividends from Morgan Stanley	<u>\$3,344.35</u>			
Edison Int'l	<u>\$5,686.20</u>			
Comcast	<u>\$1,044.12</u>			
Wells Fargo	<u>\$255.00</u>			
Total Revenue		\$10,329.67		
Balance				\$48,794.42
Administrative Expenses				
Payroll	<u>\$5,592.66</u>			
Payroll Tax	<u>\$1,980.09</u>			
Payroll Fee	<u>\$859.94</u>			
401K Contribution	<u>\$450.00</u>			
Total Payroll Expenses		\$8,882.69		
Other Administrative Expenses				
Credit card Charges				
Refreshments for Meeting	<u>\$42.00</u>			
Fedex	<u>\$21.21</u>			
Copies Budget				
Public Storage	<u>\$291.00</u>			
Total Other Admin Expenses	<u>\$354.21</u>	<u>\$354.21</u>		
Total Admin Expenses			\$9,236.90	

Service Dept. Expenses				
Payroll	\$10,010.10			
Payroll Tax	\$4,520.40			
Total Service Dept. Payroll Esp..		\$14,530.50		
Other Expenses				
Equipment Setup	\$3,444.40			
Service Director	\$612.43			
Service Officer	\$23.03			
T Mobile	\$555.73			
Total Other Expenses		\$4,635.59		
Total Service Dept Expenses			\$19,166.09	
Total Expenses for Admin & Service Dept.				-\$28,402.99
Balance Ending Feb				\$20,391.43

VA&R Fund Account				
Morgan Stanley Investment				
Balance Begin Feb		\$280,848.73		
Deposits				
Dividends		\$710.81		
Balance End of Feb				\$281,559.54
Chase Account				
Balance Begin Feb		\$92,086.54		
Interest		\$1.34		
Balance of End Feb				\$92,087.88
Total End Feb				\$373,647.42

Hollywood Canteen Foundation Trust Fund				
Balance Begin Feb		\$4,420.31		

Deposit		\$0.00	
Aid to Service Member			
Check No. 1065	\$750.00		
Check No. 1066	\$750.00		
Total expenses		-\$1,500.00	
Balance Ending Feb			\$2,920.31

Page A

Value of Stocks on Hand Feb				
Name	SYMBOLS	SHARES	VALUE	TOTALS
AEGON	AEG	494	\$7.22	\$ 3,566.68
AT&T	T	1268	\$28.95	\$ 36,708.60
CHEVRON	CVX	563	\$189.77	\$ 106,840.51
EDISON	ED	6480	\$112.49	\$ 728,935.20
LUMEN	LUMN	230	\$6.80	\$ 1,564.00
VERIZON	VZ	3068	\$51.17	\$ 156,989.56
WELLS FARGO	WFC	500	\$82.00	\$ 41,000.00
Total		12603	\$478.40	\$ 1,075,604.55

Current Assets Feb			
Morgan Stanley Investment		\$115,754.02	
VA&R		\$373,647.42	
Chase General Account Checking		\$20,391.43	
Chase Hollywood Canteen Checking		\$170.31	
Shares on Hand	12603	\$ 1,075,604.55	
Total Assets			\$1,585,567.73

VA&R		SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FROM DEPARTMENT	
1	7/1/2012	BEGINNING BALANCE	\$2,400,000.00
2	2013	\$60,000.00	\$2,340,000.00
3	2/14	\$60,000.00	\$2,280,000.00
4	11/14	\$60,000.00	\$2,220,000.00
5	5/15	\$60,000.00	\$2,160,000.00
6	8/16	\$60,000.00	\$2,100,000.00
7	9/16	\$60,000.00	\$2,040,000.00
8	8/17	\$60,000.00	\$1,980,000.00
9	9/17	\$60,000.00	\$1,920,000.00
10	7/18	\$60,000.00	\$1,860,000.00
11	9/20	\$60,000.00	\$1,800,000.00
12	7/21	\$60,000.00	\$1,740,000.00
13	7/22	\$60,000.00	\$1,680,000.00
14	6/23	\$60,000.00	\$1,620,000.00
15	7/24	\$60,000.00	\$1,560,000.00
16	7/25	\$60,000.00	\$1,500,000.00
17			
	Amt Rec TD	\$900,000.00	

Respectfully Submitted by:

Gil Soto

Treasurer

3/6/2026