



**Department of New Jersey
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

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Department Order 017

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Dear Brothers,

During my six years serving as an elected officer, I have made an observation and, more recently, learned a striking lesson. The observation is that there are many camp as well as some department level officers that do not appear to have a working familiarity with the Constitution and Regulations of our Order. The personal lesson lies in the constantly changing nature of our governing documents.

Whereas we are sworn to respect and uphold the C&R, and considering that most disputes can be avoided or resolved by its reference and observance, I strongly urge EVERY elected officer in the New Jersey department to read and understand this central binding and unifying set of bylaws.

Furthermore, it should be recognized that regular annual changes result from the National Encampment. These modifications are reported in The Banner, which serves as the journal for our Order. Therefore, I urge careful reading of The Banner as well as a review of the current C&R every 6 months.

The current version of the C&R is available online at

<http://www.suvcw.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Blue-Book-2015-2.pdf>.

It is intended that the above recommendations serve as a foundation to prevent disputes and disharmony as well as contribute to the efficient workings of the New Jersey Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

C. J. Heagy, PCC
Commander
New Jersey Department
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War