

Resolution # 2116 -
Department Veterans Services Committee

Memorandum of Understanding between New York State Counties and the American Legion Department of New York

Whereas, pursuant to New York State Executive Law 357 section 1 and 3, and New York State County Law section 800, the County shall establish a County Veterans Service Agency (CVSA) to be headed by a Director and other assistants referred to herein as County Service Officers (CSOs) approved by the County, and

Whereas, New York State Executive Law Section 357 section 3 states the CSOs shall take all steps necessary to be accredited as a Veterans Services Organization (VSO) representative, and

Whereas, The American Legion, pursuant to Title 38 U.S. Code section 5902, is recognized as a VSO by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and

Whereas, County Service Officers, when recognized as representatives of the American Legion by the VA may prepare, present and prosecute claims under the laws administered by the VA, and

Whereas, County Service Officers must maintain a dual relationship as both a County employee and American Legion representatives, and

Whereas, New York State Counties and the American Legion need to maintain an ongoing relationship of collaboration concerning all County Service Officer duties, responsibilities and accreditation when serving the needs of all veterans, service members and their families, including but not limited to, determining any unique and/or shared requirements and responsibilities for County Service Officer confidentiality, training, continuing education, accreditation recertification, tools, technology needs, work product, production, preservation, protection and responsibility for legal claims resulting from any errors and/or omissions by the County Service Officer, now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Department Veterans Services Committee develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), in conjunction with New York State Counties, delineating responsibilities shared between New York State Counties and the American Legion including but not limited to, determining any unique and/or shared requirements and responsibilities for County Service Officers confidentiality, training, continuing education, accreditation recertification, tools, technology needs, work product, production, preservation, protection and responsibility for legal claims resulting from any errors and/or omissions by the County Service O, and B
be it further

Resolved, that the Department Commander and or/the Department Adjutant of the NYS American Legion be the signatory for each County MOU agreement, and be it finally

Resolved, that this resolution be approved by the American Legion Department of New York at convention at the NYS Department Convention July 29th – 31st, 2021

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE

Approved X Rejected

Approved with Amendments

Consolidated with

Referred to Standing Committee on

Received and Recorded

Other Action

Signature
(Chairman)

James W. Casey
Adjutant Signature

New York

Department

Below section to be completed when resolution
is submitted from another authorized source.

Michael R. Suter, Chairman

Name

Department Resolutions Committee

Title