

CALL TO CONVENTION 2026
THE AMERICAN LEGION – DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Pursuant to the requirements of the constitution and by-laws, the American Legion, Department of New York, I, John R. Miga, Department Commander, do hereby call the 108th Annual Convention of the American Legion, Department of New York, to be held in Syracuse, NY, Thurs July 16th – 18th 2026 to convene at 9:00 am daylight savings time for the following purposes:

Business:

1. To elect delegates and alternates to the National Convention to be held in Louisville, Kentucky August 28th – September 3, 2026 (Department of New York is entitled to 5 delegates-at-large and one additional delegate and one additional alternate for each one thousand members or a major fraction thereof, paid up at national headquarters thirty (30) days prior to national convention.)
2. To elect officers for the Department of New York for the ensuing year,
Commander, five Vice-Commanders, and Treasurer.
3. To elect in district caucus ten District Commanders to serve on the Department Executive Committee for the ensuing year and ten District Vice Commanders.
4. To elect ten District Directors of the American Legion Boys' State of New York, Inc., as provided for by the constitution and by-laws of that body.
5. To amend the present department constitution and bylaws, if so desired, and to transact any other business that may come before the convention.

Representation:

In this convention, representation shall be by counties. Each county shall be entitled to four delegates-at-large and four alternates-at-large, and to one additional delegate and one additional alternate for each 250 memberships or the major fraction thereof, paid up at department headquarters 30 days prior to the date of the convention. (per capita tax and cards must be in department headquarters no later than midnight June 16, 2026, to be credited to convention representation.) Alternates will have the privilege of voting on the floor of the convention only in the absence or inability of regular delegates, they shall have all other privileges of delegates including the right to serve on all committees.

Election of delegates:

Section 3 of Article IV of the Department Constitution provides “that the delegates to the Department Convention and the alternates shall be chosen by each county at a county convention held at least 15 days prior to the Department Convention. Each county shall provide the method of election of the delegates and alternates from its county in such manner that each post in the county has a proportionate voice in the election, such proportion to be on the same basis as that of the post representation on the county committee.”

(No substitution of names for such regularly elected delegates and alternates will be permitted.)

Certification of delegates:

It will be necessary for County Adjutants to forward to department headquarters immediately upon adjournment of their respective county conventions, and, in no event less than 15 days prior to the opening of the Department Convention: the names, addresses, and post affiliations of delegates and alternates from their counties to the Department Convention. Official forms for this purpose are furnished to all County Adjutants by the Department Adjutant. Delegates and alternates must present a current, paid membership card when they report for registration at the convention.

Registration fee:

You are again reminded that the registration fee of \$20.00 must be remitted by the county organization for each of its delegates and such of its alternates as it may desire to register to department headquarters immediately following the close of the respective county convention. (All delegates and alternates must have their registration fees paid to department headquarters at least 15 days prior to the convention to have voting rights on the floor. Only accredited alternates may take the place of convention delegates. Delegates' and alternates' fees may be applied only to the individual of record at department headquarters.)

Resolutions:

All resolutions for consideration by the convention resolutions committee must be received at department headquarters at least 30 days prior to the opening date of the convention. Such resolutions must have the approval of a county committee or convention or of a properly constituted department committee. (It will therefore be necessary for county adjutants to have all resolutions at department headquarters on or before June 16, 2026.) Due to the work involved in preparing and distributing the resolutions prior to the convention, we must insist on this deadline.

Any resolution submitted after 30 days prior to convention will be reviewed by the Department Resolutions Committee to determine if the resolution is germane to The American Legion and of emergent nature to be considered at the current Convention. We urgently request that counties do not adopt resolutions that are not germane to the purpose for which the American Legion was organized.

Gary M Schacher

Executive Assistant to The Adjutant

John R Miga

Department Commander