

Fellow Sons,

After a virtual meeting this past Thursday, Department of Texas Commander Perkins notified me that the Department DEC will be voting on whether to follow the lead and suggestion of National to cancel the Convention scheduled to be held in July. This vote will be presented at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, April 27th. The DEC will be given 48 to 72 hours to respond. We should then have the results by the middle to the end of the week.

*The By-Laws of the Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Texas, Article III, Section 1 states, **“The legislative body of the Detachment shall meet at the Detachment Convention which shall be held annually in conjunction with the Department Convention of the American Legion. The meeting place shall be fixed jointly by the Executive Committee of the Detachment of Texas and The American Legion, Department of Texas.”***

Based on this, our convention is tied to the Legion's decision. So, between now and the vote on the 27th, I want to encourage our Squadrons, Districts, and Divisions to discuss your opinions with your Legion counterparts on holding the convention in July. I have heard people passionately expressing divergent views on this matter.

I would ask our Division and District Commanders to get with the Squadrons to get a feel for what the grassroots membership thinks and to determine what kind of attendance we will have should it be decided to proceed with the convention as currently scheduled.

A couple of final points...

This is from Eddy Seegers, a citizen. It is my own personal opinion and not from any position of leadership or membership, just me. I would go to a restaurant right now and enjoy a meal with my family if I the shutdowns were lifted. I would go to a ball game if I could. And, if the question of having the convention were left to me, I would say let's get to Austin and get it done. But this is just my personal opinion taking nothing else into consideration.

This is from Eddy Seegers, Commander Detachment of Texas 2019-2020. We have to take into consideration the welfare of all of our members. The Legion, the Auxiliary, and the Sons all have a portion of our membership that through age or compromised immune systems that make them vulnerable to infectious disease. As an organization, we need to take into consideration the safety of all the members of The American Legion Family. For this reason, I feel that we should err on the side of caution. As one of our nation's leaders said back at the start of this crisis, paraphrasing, I hope when this is over we can say that we overreacted and not that we didn't do enough.

That being said, I encourage our leadership to share your well-thought opinion. Your opinion will be respected no matter which way you go. Please share those opinions with our leadership and the leadership of the Legion.

Finally, if anyone wants to call me, my schedule makes me hard to reach before noon and after 6:00 in the evening. However, if you do call and I don't answer, PLEASE, leave a voicemail that includes your name. I apologize but I am terrible about recognizing voices on the phone/voice mail. If you want, leave a good time for me to call you back.

Like almost every news story or article states we do truly live in unprecedented and challenging times. Working together, we will come through this stronger as a community, state, nation, and organization.

For God and Country,

Eddy Seegers
Commander
Sons of The American Legion
Detachment of Texas

832-573-5594