



DISTRICT 16

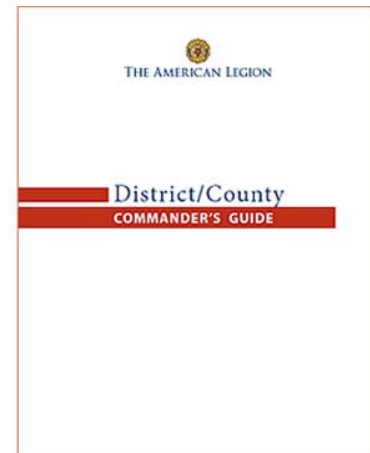
VENTURA – SANTA BARBARA – SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTIES
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA, THE AMERICAN LEGION

DISTRICT 16

District Sixteen serves The American Legion Posts, all 19 of them, in the counties of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura. The district supports our posts with training, program support and serves as an important liaison between the post and department.

The District Commander's Guide states,

“According to Article VIII of The American Legion Constitution, departments have the authority to create intermediate bodies between the post and department to assist as a liaison between the two, and for the purpose of promoting American Legion programs.”



District 16 is just that, an intermediate body between our 19 local posts and the Department of California. Our by-laws define the powers and duties of the district as well as the duties of our district officers. The district by-laws and standing rules can be found on the 'Resource' page of the District 16 web site @ <http://districtsixteen.org/index.html>

District Organization

The pyramid graphic shows the basic layers of The American Legion organization. The veteran is at the top of the pyramid because it is the veteran that every layer serves.

At each layer, leaders help guide the good work of the Legion to serve our veterans and their families. Although post commanders are not members of the District Executive Committee (DEC), post commanders do represent their local post to the district. The district commander represents all the posts of the district as a member of Department Executive Committee. Important roles.





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In the Department (State) of California we are organized into 6 Areas, 30 Districts, 460 local posts and have a membership goal of 90,000 for this year. Each post and district are a distinct legal organization. The 6 areas are direct extensions of the Department of California.

The Department of California Executive Committee, is also referred to as the DEC (Department Executive Committee). The DEC meets at the annual Department Convention in June, a fall meeting and spring meeting each year.

MEETINGS

Generally, meetings of The American Legion are open to all Legionnaires in good standing (current dues paid).

District 16 Meetings, the dates of our district meetings are defined in the district by-laws.

- Organizational Meeting - third Sunday in July.
- Regular Meeting - Sunday after Labor Day
- Regular Meeting - Sunday before Thanksgiving
- Regular Meeting - Second Sunday following Lincoln's birthday
- Annual Meeting - First Sunday in June



Area 6 Meetings, are determined by the Department Vice Commander.

The four districts of Area 6 (District 16, District 18, District 20 and District 24) gather to caucus in the Spring and Fall.

Department of California Meetings, include the annual Convention held in June, a Spring Meeting and a Fall meeting. Additional meetings of Department Commissions may be called throughout the year. For an explanation of the difference between a 'commission' and a 'committee' visit the FAQ page on the District 16 web site.



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Basic Information About District Meetings

The location of District meetings is determined by the District Executive Committee during annual Organizational Meeting. The district meeting agendas are developed by the district commander.

Sign-In District Meeting

Legionnaires and guests are to sign-in upon arrival at a district meeting, at the Sergeant-at-Arms table which is usually located near the entrance to the meeting room.

The District Executive Committee is the first to meet and normally start around 9 or 9:30 a.m. The District Meeting begins at 10 a.m. An agenda for the meeting is published on the district web site prior to the meeting.

Roll Call of Officers and Posts

Early in the agenda of the district meeting the district adjutant conducts a “Roll Call of Officers and Posts”. This is when each post commander is expected to rise and report how many elected delegates are in attendance from their post and how many paid members have been submitted, along with their percentage of membership goal attainment. Should the post commander be absent, a post vice commander would be expected to answer the roll call and make the post report.

Legion Uniform

All Legionnaires should wear a uniform cap to Legion functions. Legion leaders are expected to wear a uniform cap to all meetings. Purchase your Legion uniform cap online at: emblem.legion.org

Name Badges:

Leaders attending Legion meetings are expected to wear a name badge with their name, post number and leadership position.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The essence, influence and strength of District 16 is found within the leadership of the District Executive Committee (DEC) which is elected at the Annual Meeting in June of each year. The DEC is entrusted with the administration, governance and management of District 16. The District



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Commander is the executive head of the DEC and appoints officers and committees as required to complete the programs of the district.

Voting Members of District Executive Committee are:

- District Commander
- First Vice Commander
- Second Vice Commander
- Junior Past Commander
- 6 Executive Committeemen, 2 each from Ventura, Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo Counties.

The election of our district Commander and Vice Commanders rotate through the three counties in District 16: Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo

District officers are elected at the annual district meeting and serve a 1-year term of office. District officers assume office when the District Commander is installed at the Department Convention.

The Adjutant, Finance Officer, Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms, Judge Advocate, Historian, and Service Officer are all appointed by the Commander and they do not have voting rights on the District Executive Committee.

The Adjutant is the recording secretary. The Judge Advocate and Finance Officer are advisors to the DEC.

District committees include: Membership, Ways & Means, Media & Communications, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, Boys State and Oratorical Committees. Each of our committees play a very important role in success of District 16.



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DISTRICT 16 POSTS:

San Luis Obispo County

1. Paso Robles, Post 50
2. San Luis Obispo, Post 66
3. Arroyo Grande, Post 136
4. Templeton, Post 220
5. Cambria, Post 432

Santa Barbara County

1. Santa Barbara, Post 49
2. Santa Maria, Post 56
3. Lompoc, Post 125
4. Solvang, Post 160
5. Lompoc, Post 211
6. Guadalupe, Post 371
7. Orcutt, Post 534

Ventura County

1. Oxnard, Post 48
2. Ventura, Post 339
3. Ojai, Post 482
4. Simi Valley, Post 484
5. Moorpark, Post 502
6. Oak View, Post 686
7. Camarillo, Post 741

