

FAYETTEVILLE INDEPENDENT LIGHT INFANTRY COMPANY

MEMBERSHIP POLICY (12/18/2022)

1.0 MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- 1.1 Applicant must be a male and at least 18 years of age, with no maximum age requirement.
- 1.2 Applicant must be of good character and reputation.
- 1.3 Applicant must have no criminal record.
- 1.4 Applicant must be a gentlemen.
- 1.5 Applicant who has served in the Armed Forces must possess an Honorable Discharge.
- 1.6 Applicant must be willing to participate in the affairs of the unit.
- 1.7 Applicant must be compatible and in harmony with existing membership.
- 1.8 Applicant must conform to the principals and traditions of the unit.
- 1.9 Applicant must be recommended for membership by two (2) active members.
- 1.10 Applicant must understand that membership in the FILI is a privilege and not a right.

2.0 APPLICATIONS:

- 2.1 Membership applications are controlled items, issued and signed for by number.
- 2.2 The Commander, Adjutant, or First Sergeant will be responsible for the issuance and recording of all applications.
- 2.3 Applications and sign-out ledger will be maintained and secured by the Adjutant.
- 2.4 The Adjutant or First Sergeant will receive and review applications to insure that they are complete.
- 2.5 Any false statements made on an application will result in the Applicant being denied membership. If false statements are detected after the Applicant is made a member, he will be dropped from the rolls.
- 2.6 The Adjutant or First Sergeant will file completed applications in the Adjutants Office.
- 2.7 The Adjutant or First Sergeant are the primary point of contact for applicants.
- 2.8 Applicants who are veterans must attach a copy of DD-214 to application form.

3.0 APPLICANT RECOMMENDATION FORM:

- 3.1 Applicants must be recommended by two (2) active members in good standing.
- 3.2 Active members making recommendations must complete Applicant Recommendation form.
- 3.3 The Adjutant or First Sergeant will receive and review Applicant Recommendation forms and insure that they are complete.
- 3.4 The Adjutant or First Sergeant will file completed Applicant Recommendation forms in the Adjutant's Office.

4.0 APPLICANT BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION:

- 4.1 The Commanding Officer or Adjutant will appoint an Investigating Officer to conduct a background investigation on the Applicant.
- 4.2 The appointed Investigating Officer will be selected so as not to create a conflict of interest.
- 4.3 The Investigating Officer will prepare a written report and recommendation.
- 4.4 The written report and recommendation will be received and reviewed by the Commanding Officer and members of the appointed interview board.
- 4.5 The Investigating Officer's report will be filed in the applicants file located in the Adjutant's Office.

5.0 APPLICANT ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS, MUSTERS, SOCIALS, AND OTHER EVENTS

5.1 An applicant is required to attend at least one (1) regular monthly meeting prior to being voted a member.

5.2 An applicant is encouraged to attend at least one (1) social event but not to exceed two (2) social events prior to being voted a member.

6.0 APPLICANT INTERVIEW BOARD:

6.1 The Commanding Officer will appoint an Applicant Interview Board, which will consist of not less than four (4) nor more than six (6) active members.

6.2 The Commanding Officer will serve as the President of the Board.

6.3 In the absence of the Commanding Officer, the Adjutant will serve as the President of the Board.

6.4 The Applicant Interview Board will not convene until the Application, Applicant Recommendation form, and Investigating Officers Report, are completed and reviewed by the Board.

6.5 The Board will interview the Applicant to determine if he meets the membership requirements, and can serve in the ranks with harmony.

6.6 At the completion of the Applicant interview, the Board will vote to determine if the Applicant will be recommended to the members of the FILI for membership consideration.

6.7 All members of the Board must concur.

7.0 CLOSING APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

7.1 The Commanding Officer may close membership at any time for safety or capacity considerations.

7.2 The Commanding Officer may close membership at any time for operational or logistical considerations.

8.0 VOTING ON APPLICANT

8.1 An Applicant must be present at a monthly meeting to be introduced prior to being voted upon by the membership of the FILL

8.2 The sponsors will recommend and introduce the Applicant prior to the membership vote.

8.3 The Applicant will then be escorted out of the Muster Hall awaiting the results of his membership vote.

8.4 The Commanding Officer will then report to the membership on the results of the Investigating Officer's Report and Interview Board.

8.5 A member of the Board of Audit and Review will report to the membership concerning procedural accuracy on the Applicant process.

8.6 The Commanding Officer will call for a vote on the Applicant.

8.7 The membership will vote on the applicant and all must concur.

8.8 If an Applicant is not voted a member, he will be informed by the Commanding Officer.

8.9 If Applicant is voted a member, he will be escorted back to the Muster Hall for the Swearing-In Ceremony.

9.0 SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

9.1 The Applicant will be escorted throughout the ceremony by the Color Officer pursuant to the direction of the Commander.

9.2 The Commanding Officer will conduct the swearing-in ceremony which will involve the Chaplain, Company Officers, and First Sergeant.

9.3 The Commanding Officer will administer the Oath of Office.

9.4 The Adjutant will read the Membership Warrant.

9.5 The Commanding Officer will present Applicant with Membership Warrant.

9.6 Applicant will receive a Drambuie toast.

9.7 Applicant will then be given the opportunity to address the membership.

9.8 The Historian will photograph the ceremony for the official record.

9.9 The Orderly Sergeant is responsible for having Membership Warrant prepared prior to Swearing-In Ceremony.

10.0 MENTOR

10.1 The First Sergeant will appoint one of the sponsors serve as a mentor for each new member.

10.2 The Mentor will introduce the new Guardsmen to the membership.

10.3 The Mentor will brief the new Guardsmen concerning up-coming events and socials

10.4 The Mentor will introduce the new Guardsmen to the First Sergeant, who will explain the various uniform options.

10.5 The Mentor will call and remind the new Guardsmen of the next Monthly Muster.

10.6 The Mentor will serve in this capacity during the first six (6) months of the new Guardsmen's membership.

10.7 The First Sergeant will oversee the Mentor program.

11.0 OFFICERS AND OTHER RANKS DROPPED FROM THE ROLLS:

11.1 Officers and Other Ranks are required to pay membership dues at the Annual Muster, held on the 23rd of August.

11.2 The Operations Sergeant is responsible for the collection of membership dues under the supervision of the Adjutant and First Sergeant.

11.3 Accurate accounting records of membership dues are maintained in the Adjutant's Office.

11.4 A grace period for paying annual membership dues may be extended, but will not exceed past the end of the calendar year.

11.5 Officers and Other Ranks not paying annual membership dues will be dropped from the rolls.

11.6 Once dropped from the rolls, a former member desiring membership will be handled as a new Applicant.

12.0 UNBECOMING CONDUCT:

12.1 Any Officer or Other Ranks found to be unworthy or bringing discredit upon the FILI will stand before a court martial board.

12.2 The Commanding Officer will bring appropriate charges against the accused member and appoint the court martial board. In the event that the Commanding Officer is the accused, the Board of Audit and Review will bring charges and appoint the court martial board.

12.3 The court martial board will hear evidence, to include testimony from the accused member.

12.4 If the accused member is found guilty by the court martial board, he will be dropped from the rolls.

12.5 If the accused member refuses to appear before the court martial board, he will be dropped from the rolls.

BRUCE J. DAWS
Major, Infantry
Commanding