

September 2026 – Department Guard

Audra Ramirez

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters,

It was wonderful getting to see those of you who attended the training academies in August! One of the Guard's main duties is to take our place at the door and greet our guests with a smile and enthusiasm. I hope I did not disappoint as I welcomed those arriving for the academies and assisted with the check-in line.

We learned so much valuable information during the training academies, including how to conduct a meeting; the duties and responsibilities of officers; why you should consider running for office and how to do so; parliamentary procedure and Robert's Rules of Order; Bylaws; reporting; mentoring; new member training; Secretary and Treasurer training; membership drives; and so much more.

One of my key takeaways from these academies is that **no one individual can retain all of this information**. As members, we should support one another, share our knowledge and experience, and build each other up. We are all working toward the same common goal: **supporting our Veterans and their families**.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of your Department Line Officers if you need assistance locating information or have questions. We are here to support you, and we are all in this together!

Respectfully,

Audra Ramirez

Department Guard