

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

## DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN Nicholas P. Lange, Department Judge Advocate

December 21, 2022

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## Gentlemen:

I am writing at the direction of the Department Executive Committee, The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin, to address your troublesome and unacceptable conduct as it relates to Luther-Hamshire-Pearsall Post 279 of The American Legion.

At the outset I will remind you, <u>vet again</u>, that on November 18, 2021, you were removed from your officer positions with Post 279. Your removal from officer positions was done <u>absolutely correctly</u> according to established procedure within the Department of Wisconsin Constitution and By-Laws.

Your conduct as it relates to Post 279 continues to be troublesome and unacceptable.

- You file false complaints against members and officers of Post 279 with the Department of Wisconsin.
- You are regularly and continuously drafting pretend, pseudo-legal documents holding yourselves out as officers of Post 279, which you then publish in the newspaper and post on community bulletin boards.
- You have disrupted Post 279 meetings.
- You harass members of Post 279 by visiting their homes and places of employment and filing false and perjurious complaints against them.
- You distribute and publish "recruitment" and "revitalization" literature holding your-selves out as Post Officers.
- You have published false versions of Post 279 By-Laws in the newspaper, falsely representing that you are officers of Post 279, and referring to make-believe activities and committees, including "Custodial Watch," "Ceremonial Watch," and "Club Associations Civility and Behavior."

I have reviewed many of your pretended documents that you deliver, post, and publish. None of them are valid or have any formal significance. They are only evidence of your preposterous belief that you are still officers with Post 279 of The American Legion, and your preposterous belief that you have authority to speak or act, in any way, on behalf of Post 279. "Some people believe with great fervor preposterous things that just happen to

coincide with their self-interest." <u>Coleman v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue</u>, 791 F.2d 68, 69 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1986).

You have no basis in reality to hold yourself out as officers of Post 279. You were removed from office. You have no authority to take any actions or publish notices of any kind on behalf of Post 279. And at the end of December, your memberships in The American Legion will expire. Stop harassing Post 279 with your ridiculous paperwork and publications.

Finally, as a courtesy, I will point out that many of the documents you prepare and post and distribute, in addition to being pure make-believe, very likely constitute criminal conduct in violation of Wis. Stat. § 946.68, entitled "Simulating Legal Process." Delivery to another of a document which simulates legal process is a Class I felony, punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000.00, imprisonment up to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years, or both. "Legal process" includes all of the following: subpoena, summons, complaint, warrant, injunction, writ, notice, pleading, order, and any other document that directs a person to perform or refrain from performing a specified act and compliance with which is enforceable by a court or governmental agency.

Nicholas P. Lange

Judge Advocate
The American Legion

Department of Wisconsin

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