

Tentative Agenda  
98<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention  
The American Legion  
August 30 – September 1, 2016

Cincinnati, Ohio  
Duke Energy Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A, First Floor

Tuesday, August 30, 2016

8:00 a.m.      **Prelude**

8:30 a.m.      **Call to Order**  
Dale Barnett (Georgia)  
National Commander

**Advancement of Colors**  
Harrisburg Post 472, Houston, Texas

**National Anthem**  
Larry Gatlin

**Invocation**  
Tierian (Randy) Cash (North Carolina)  
Acting National Chaplain

**Pledge of Allegiance**  
Daniel L. Zimmerman (Georgia)  
National Sergeant-at-Arms

**POW/MIA Empty Chair Ceremony**  
By: G. Michael Schlee (Maryland)  
Chairman, National Security Commission  
E. C. Toppin (North Carolina)  
Vice Chairman, National Security Commission

**Preamble to The American Legion Constitution**  
Dale Barnett (Georgia)  
National Commander

8:45 a.m.      **Opening Ceremony**  
Master of Ceremonies  
Larry Gatlin

Musical Selection  
Larry Gatlin

The American Legion Youth Champions

Joshua Wasilewski, Belmont, Vermont  
2015 American Legion Baseball All-Academic Team Captain

Anighya Crocker, Springfield, Tennessee  
2016 Boys Nation President

Jacob Kelly, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin  
2016 Eagle Scout of the Year

Taylor Gibson, Salem, Oregon  
2016 Junior Shooting Sports Precision Champion

Emma Thompson, Freeport, Illinois  
2016 Junior Shooting Sports Sporter Champion

Benjamin Crosby, Burlington, Washington  
2016 National Oratorical Contest First Place Winner

### **Spirit of Service Awards**

Hershel W. "Woody" Williams  
Medal of Honor recipient

General Joseph F. Dunford, Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff

To: CPL Bryce T. Wolford  
United States Army

PO2 Levetina S. King  
United States Navy

SSgt David M. Jenks  
United States Marine Corps

SSgt Russell H. Taylor III  
United States Air Force

SrA Igor A. Karlov  
Air National Guard

PO2 Geneva L. Cornelius  
United States Coast Guard

- 9:45 a.m.     **Address**  
General Joseph F. Dunford, Chairman  
Joint Chiefs of Staff
- 10:05 a.m.   **Introduction**  
Sharon Conatser  
National President, American Legion Auxiliary
- 10:10 a.m.   **Address**  
Hershel W. "Woody" Williams  
Medal of Honor recipient
- 10:25 a.m.   **Distinguished Service Medal**  
To: 3d U. S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard)

- 10:45 a.m     **Greetings - Sons of The American Legion**  
Kevin Collier (Alaska)  
Past National Commander
- 10:50 a.m.     **Presentation**  
To: Dale Barnett (Georgia)  
National Commander  
By: The American Legion Riders
- Additional Donations to Legacy Fund**
- 11:30 a.m.     **Chapel of Four Chaplains Legion of Honor Bronze Medallion**  
To: Dale Barnett (Georgia), Natl. Comdr.  
      National Vice Commanders  
      George E. Cushing (Arizona)  
      Jimmy F. Lane (Arkansas)  
      John W. Hargreaves (Maine)  
      Alan A. Davis, Sr. (Minnesota)  
      David L. Gough (Wisconsin)  
By: Bron Mogenis, Trustee, Chapel of Four Chaplains  
Foundation
- 11:40 a.m.     **Certificate of Appreciation**  
To: H. C. "Ted" Kelley(Pennsylvania)  
      National Chaplain
- Accepting: Ronald F. Conley (Pennsylvania)  
                          Past National Commander
- Certificate of Appreciation**  
To: Tierian (Randy) Cash (North Carolina)  
      Acting National Chaplain
- 11:45 a.m.     **Welcome**  
The Honorable Sherrod Brown (video greetings)  
United States Senate
- The Honorable Steve Chabot  
United States House of Representatives
- The Honorable John Cranley  
Mayor of the City of Cincinnati
- James W. Campbell  
2015-16 Department Commander of Ohio
- James C. Morris, President  
The American Legion National Convention Corp. of Ohio
- 12:35 p.m.     **Greetings**  
Brian Phoenix, Past Dominion President  
Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

Dave Flannigan, Dominion President  
The Royal Canadian Legion

Terry Whittles, National Chairman  
The Royal British Legion

Lee, Wen Chung, Deputy Minister  
Veterans Affairs Commission, Republic of China

Mike Tomme, President General  
National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

1:25 p.m.

**Special Presentation**

Summit for Soldiers

C. Michael Fairman, Co-Founder

Richard Amaroso

Allen Diamond

Steve Downey

Andrew Oakes

Anna Pelino

Dietrich Stallsworth

1:30 p.m.

**Natl. Comdr's Report to Convention**

Dale Barnett (Georgia)

National Commander

1:45 p.m.

**Presentation**

Greg D. Carmichael, President and CEO

Fifth Third Bancorp

1:50 p.m.

**Call for Convention**

Daniel S. Wheeler (Virginia)

National Adjutant

2:05 p.m.

**Report of Credentials & Rules**

2:20 p.m.

**Report of Finance**

2:35 p.m.

**Philip B. Onderdonk, Jr. Religious Liberty Award**

Kelly Shackelford, President and CEO

First Liberty Institute

2:50 p.m.

**Report of Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation**

Health Administration

National Cemetery

Veterans Benefits

Announcement of Winning Department -

William F. Lenker National Service Trophy

3:50 p.m.

**Salute to Colors**

**Recess**

NOTE: Times of subsequent sessions and times of convention committee reports are subject to change by the chair.

Wednesday, August 31, 2016

- 8:00 a.m.      **Prelude**
- 8:30 a.m.      **Call to Order**  
Dale Barnett (Georgia)  
National Commander
- Salute to Colors**
- Invocation**  
Tierian (Randy) Cash (North Carolina)  
Acting National Chaplain
- Pledge of Allegiance**  
Daniel L. Zimmerman (Georgia)  
National Sergeant-at-Arms
- 8:35 a.m.      **Address**  
CSM Robert Winzenried, United States Army (Ret.)  
Military Affairs Relationship Director, USAA
- 8:45 a.m.      **2016 Natl. Law Enforcement Officer of Year**  
To: David J. Mahon  
      Effingham County Sheriff's Office  
      Effingham, Illinois
- 2016 Natl. Firefighter of Year**  
To: Matt Brown  
      Lakeland Fire Department  
      Lakeland, Florida
- 9:00 a.m.      **The American Legion Patriot Award**  
To: Bernard L. Marie
- 9:05 a.m.      **Presentation – French Legion of Honor**  
By: Vincent Floreani – Consul General of France
- 9:20 a.m.      **Address**  
The Honorable Robert A. McDonald, Secretary  
U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- 9:40 a.m.      **Employer of Year Award for Hiring Veterans**  
                  LARGE CATEGORY  
To: New York Shipping Association, Inc.  
      Edison, New Jersey
- Disabled Veterans Outreach**  
**Program Specialist of The Year Award**  
To: Dwight A. Butler  
      Fayetteville, North Carolina

- 9:50 a.m.     **Report of Veterans Employment & Education**  
Employment and Veterans Preference  
Veterans Education, Other Benefits & Homelessness
- 10:50 a.m.     **Address**  
Deshauna Barber, Miss USA
- 11:05 a.m.     **Daniel J. O'Connor Americanism Trophy**  
To: Winning Department
- 11:10 a.m.     **Report of Americanism**  
Americanism  
    The Frank N. Belgrano, Jr., Trophy  
    Ralph T. O'Neil Education Trophy  
Children & Youth  
    Garland Murphy Award  
    Legacy Award  
**Collection of Donations to the  
American Legion Child Welfare Foundation**
- 11:50 a.m.     **Address**  
Michael B. Surbaugh, Chief Scout Executive  
Boy Scouts of America
- 12:05 p.m.     **National Commander's Media and Communications Award**  
To: ESPN  
    Bristol, Connecticut
- 12:20 p.m.     **Plaque to the City of Baltimore  
for the 2015 National Convention**  
By: Michael D. Helm (Nebraska)  
    Past National Commander  
To: Patricia McCoy, Department Commander  
    The American Legion of Maryland
- 12:30 p.m.     **Address**  
Hillary Clinton, Democrat Candidate for President
- 1:30 p.m.     **Report of National Security**  
Aerospace  
Conventional Armed Forces  
Foreign Relations  
Law and Order & Homeland Security  
Military Benefits & Quality of Life  
National Guard & Reserve Forces  
Unconventional Forces & Intelligence  
  
**Collection of Donations to Operation Comfort Warriors**
- 2:45 p.m.     **Report of Constitutional Amendments**

3:15 p.m. **Report of Internal Affairs**  
 Membership  
 Other Internal Matters

3:30 p.m. **Department Membership Awards**  
**Collection of Donations to National Emergency Fund**

4:45 p.m. **Salute to Colors**  
**Recess**

NOTE: Times of subsequent sessions and times of Convention  
 Committee Reports are subject to change by the Chair.

Thursday, September 1, 2016

8:00 a.m. **Call to Order**  
 Dale Barnett (Georgia)  
 National Commander

**Salute to Colors**

**Invocation**  
 Tierian (Randy) Cash (North Carolina)  
 Acting National Chaplain

**Pledge of Allegiance**  
 Daniel L. Zimmerman (Georgia)  
 National Sergeant-at-Arms

8:05 a.m. **Report of Legislation**

8:20 a.m. **The American Legion Fourth Estate Award**  
 BROADCAST CATEGORY  
 To: WXIA-TV  
 Atlanta, Georgia  
 ONLINE CATEGORY  
 To: Milwaukee Journal Sentinel  
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
 PRINT CATEGORY  
 To: Marine Corps Times  
 Springfield, Virginia

9:00 a.m. **Address**  
 Donald Trump – Republican Candidate for President

10:00 a.m. **Presentation**  
 Soldiers Wish

10:10 a.m. **Special Presentations**

10:30 a.m. **Presentation of Plaque and Colors to  
Outgoing National Commander**  
By: Robert S. Turner, Past National Commander (Georgia) (COLORS)  
By: Daniel M. Dellinger, Past National Commander (Virginia)  
(PLAQUE)

12:00 noon (or at the conclusion of all other business, whichever first occurs)

**Special Order of Business**

**Election of National Officers**

National Commander

**Administering the Oath of Office to the  
National Commander**

**Acceptance Speech by Newly Elected National Commander**

**Election of National Officers**

Five (5) National Vice Commanders

**Installation of National Vice Commanders**

**Presentation of Colors to Newly Elected  
National Commander**

**Response by Newly Elected National Commander**

**Presentation of Newly Elected National President  
of the American Legion Auxiliary**

**Presentation of Newly Elected National Comdr,  
Sons of The American Legion**

**Unfinished Business**

**Benediction**

**Retirement of Colors**

**Adjourn**

NOTE: The National Executive Committee will meet within  
twenty-four (24) hours after close of the convention