



## Veterans of Foreign Wars Ohio Charities

*Serving Ohio Veterans & Their Families*

30 May 2024

To: VFW Ohio Charities Board Members

From: Iris Foster-DeNieuwe

Executive Director – VFW Ohio Charities

As the Executive Director of VFW Ohio Charities (VFWOC) I have an obligation to advise and inform the VFWOC Board.

The Reversion investigation extended into other areas. The Ohio Attorney General's office identified numerous areas of improper charitable expenditures. The control measures that have been implemented seem to satisfy the Attorney General, but Posts and Agents continue to resist and do not follow the laws.

Reversion to the past practices of trying to get by the Attorney General's poses risk and serious consequences to the VFW Ohio Charities and personal liability to the VFW Ohio Charities board members.

Neither the Posts or Agents should not continue to try using charitable funds to pay for VFW Department of Ohio expenses or Post expenses. These donations are not charitable as defined by Ohio statute. Continued efforts to revert to the old ways risk Agents of VFW Ohio Charities losing their gaming licenses, VFWOC losing its 501(c)3 status and individuals facing civil and even criminal liability. We have published numerous rules to guide the Agents based on Ohio and Federal law and the advice of counsel.

Too many think they know better, without qualifications to disagree, other than the fact that they don't like what the law requires. Too many are trying to advance their own personal interests rather than serve the charitable purpose the law requires VFW Ohio Charities to serve.

Too many are being told that as the Executive Director I am making these decisions. I am the conduit between the Attorney General's office and VFW Ohio Charities and its Agents. I have the best interest of the organization at heart.

Continued efforts to undermine the changes that must be implemented will result in possible continued oversight by the Attorney General and discredit to this organization and its Agents.

Respectfully,

  
Iris Foster-DeNieuwe

Executive Director