



**Department Order No. 1**  
**Series 2021-2022**  
**Department of Illinois**  
**Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War**

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May 22, 2021

**Change of Command**

By the authority vested in me as Commander of the Department of Illinois, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, by the National Constitution and Regulations, the National Policies, and the By-Laws of this Department, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. At the hybrid in-person and virtual “Zoom” Encampment held on May 22, 2021 at Petersburg, Illinois, the Delegates of the 138th Annual Encampment of the Department of Illinois elected me to the highest office of the Department of Illinois. I am humbled to be following in the footsteps of many before me and will always be thankful for the opportunity to serve the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
2. My thanks also go out to those Brothers who made this meeting possible: Dept. Secretary Steve Aarli, Dept. Communications Robert Welsh, Treasurer Bill Johnson, members of the nominating committee, members of the site committee and all those present. Special thanks go to PDC Tom Oestreicher who guided the Department through a very tough term.
3. I wish to express a special note of gratitude to late Past Commander Terry Dyer who passed away on March 21, 2021. Without his zeal we would not have the beautiful improvements that have been and are continuing to be made at the gravesite of the founder of the Grand Army of the Republic, Dr. Benjamin Stephenson at Rose Hill Cemetery in Petersburg, Illinois.
4. The Headquarters of the Department Commander is hereby transferred to **117 Highview Terrace, East Peoria, Illinois 61611**. All written communications for the Department Commander may be posted to this address. Electronic communications (email) should be sent to [bryner\\_camp67@yahoo.com](mailto:bryner_camp67@yahoo.com) (*preferred method of communication*). Telephone communication during appropriate hours: **(309) 694-7726**. **If no answer, leave a message. Please note:** I will never ask for money or gift cards through E-mails. Most communications to the membership will be distributed through the Dept. Secretary.
5. Department Chief of Staff Steve Westlake will assist in the coordination of the Department Commander’s schedule of events. Requests for the Dept. Commander’s attendance at Camp meetings, ceremonies, banquets, and other events should be directed to the Dept. Chief of Staff by telephone: **H: 708-839-5972, C: 708-846-0738 or E-mail: westlakesteven@yahoo.com**.

The foregoing Department Order is proclaimed this **22th** day of **May**, in the year of our Lord two-thousand twenty one, and of the independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-fifth.

/s/ Joseph M. Hutchinson  
Department of Illinois Commander

Attest by: /s/ Leigh Franklin  
Department of Illinois Secretary