

**ROLLING THUNDER®, INC., TENNESSEE CHAPTER 4**

**BY-LAWS**

**ARTICLE I**  
**NAME AND LOCATION**

Section 1. By virtue of charter granted, this Chapter shall be known as

Rolling Thunder®, Inc., Tennessee Chapter 4.

Section 2. The location of this Chapter shall be in the City of Johnson City, County of Washington, State of Tennessee.

**ARTICLE II**  
**SUBORDINATION**

The supreme power of this organization is vested in the National Conference, and this Chapter shall be at all times governed by the Constitution of Rolling Thunder®, Inc., orders issued by authority of the National Conference, the National President, National Executive Officers, National Board of Directors, and the State Director. For the purpose of this article and section, resolutions and National Constitution changes adopted by the National Conference are held to be lawful orders.

**ARTICLE III**  
**MEETINGS**

Section 1. The regular meeting place of this Chapter shall be at the VFW Post Home, Post 2108, 2905 Buffalo Road, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Section 2. The monthly meetings of the Chapter shall be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month to be called to order at 7:00 PM.

Section 3. The appointed day, time and location for the Chapter meeting may be changed by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting. The Chapter members and the State Director shall be notified immediately of any change of stated meeting time or place.

Section 4. Special meetings shall be called in accordance with the provisions of the National Constitution.

Section 5. Ten (10) Chapter members in good standing shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## **ARTICLE IV** **MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Membership in this Chapter, eligibility to, application for, acquiring and maintenance of, loss of and discipline shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Constitution.

Section 2. The annual dues of this Chapter shall be \$30.00, payable in accordance with the National Constitution. The amount of the annual dues may be changed by a two-thirds majority vote of members present at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 3. The dues of this Chapter shall never be less than the amount required to cover National dues.

Section 4. Junior Membership is open to anyone under age 18 with an interest in educating the public concerning the POW/MIA issue. All Junior Members must be sponsored for membership by a parent or legal guardian who is a member in good standing. Junior members will be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible family member of legal age at all times when attending meetings and events. Junior Members will be issued a chapter patch upon joining the Chapter. The Junior Member Patch will be issued upon satisfactory completion of the trial period as specified for adult members in the Rolling Thunder., Inc. constitution.

## **ARTICLE V** **OFFICERS**

Section 1. Eligibility to serve, nomination, election or appointment, installation and term of office shall be in accordance with the provisions of the National Constitution. Members may hold only one elected office.

Section 2. The duties of all officers shall be those prescribed by the National Constitution, state and local by-laws, lawful orders, as the Chapter may direct, or as this Article may hereafter provide.

Section 3. The President shall appoint a Chaplain, Sergeant-at-Arms and as such they will serve at the will and pleasure of the President or for the duration of his/her term.

Section 4. Elected Officers may also hold an appointed office and serve as Committee members or Chair.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**COMMITTEES AND DUTIES**

Section 1. All Committees and their chairpersons, unless otherwise provided, shall be appointed by the President and as such shall serve at his/her will and pleasure. The Chapter Treasurer, by virtue of his/her office, shall be treasurer of all committees handling funds.

Section 2. The Standing Committees of the Chapter shall be as follows:

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| a. Chapter Sales     | g. Honor Guard     |
| b. Community Service | h. Manna House     |
| c. Education         | i. Publicity       |
| d. Entertainment     | k. Relief          |
| e. Flag Raising      | l. Safety          |
| f. Fundraising       | m. VA Nursing Home |

Section 3. Unless otherwise expressly and specifically authorized by the Board of Directors, the authority of any committee shall not extend beyond that of fact finding for the purpose of which it was created. The committee will not create, implement or enforce existing policies of the Chapter. The committee will be responsible for reporting their findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors and the Executive Board prior to reporting to the Chapter membership.

Section 4. The Committee Chair of standing committees shall render a report of their progress, finding(s), and/or current status at each regular business meeting.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**COLLECTION AND EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS**

Section 1. Expenditure of funds shall be made only on proper voucher approved by the Chapter membership, and paid by check drawn against the chapter bank account. No expenditure of chapter funds or purchases will be made using cash. All checks for the expenditures of chapter funds shall be numbered in sequence, the number of each check to correspond with the voucher authorizing the same and in addition to the signature of the Treasurer, shall be countersigned by the Chapter President or Vice President.

Section 2. The adoption of this Article shall constitute authorization by the Chapter for the payment of bills, when and as due, for monthly rental, postage, post office box, insurance, necessary office supplies, and other recurring bills, provided that the amount to be paid shall have been previously established by the Chapter.

Section 3. No other payment or expenditures shall be made except on the specific authorization of the Chapter membership in each and every case.

Section 4. All funds collected for, on behalf of, or in the name of and belonging to the Chapter shall be given directly to the Chapter Treasurer as soon as possible, and will then be deposited into the Chapter bank account. No funds collected for, or on behalf of, the Chapter by a professional fundraiser, promoter, or solicitor shall go directly to that fundraiser, promoter, solicitor or any other 3<sup>rd</sup> party individual or group, before going into the Chapter bank account unless specifically approved by the Board of Directors and the Chapter membership, and in compliance with Article X of these By-Laws.

### **ARTICLE VIII** **COMPENSATION**

Section 1. No compensation shall be paid to any officer or member of this Chapter for his/her services, except as hereafter may be provided.

Section 2. For expenses and services rendered, the Chapter shall pay the registration fee, hotel/motel expense, per diem and mileage to two Chapter officers that attend the National Conference. The amount paid for per diem and mileage will be established on an annual basis by the Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE IX** **FUNDRAISING PROMOTIONS**

Section 1. This Chapter shall solicit funds or donations only by prior vote of the members agreeing to the proposition, after being recommended by the Board of Directors. It shall not solicit funds or conduct merchandise sales outside its jurisdiction without the prior approval of the State Director and the affected Chapter of another jurisdiction.

Section 2. This Chapter shall not enter into any agreement with a promoter for the purpose of raising funds unless the said promoter shall have first furnished a good and sufficient surety bond in a principle sum sufficient to give the Chapter ample protection in the particular circumstances. The bond shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, bear the endorsement of the Chapter President and be kept in the possession of the Chapter Treasurer. The bond will be conditioned on the payment to the Chapter Treasurer of all monies due the Chapter as a result of the solicitation within thirty days of the close of the campaign. If the promoter has made satisfactory settlement within the thirty-day period, then surety will be determined to be discharged, otherwise the bond will remain in full force and effect.

Section 3. If the bond cannot be furnished, then all collections shall be made by the members of the Chapter sponsoring the campaign or entertainment and said funds shall be paid to the Chapter Treasurer who shall hold the funds in the Chapter bank account pending proper pro rate distribution.

### **ARTICLE X**

## **SOLICITATIONS, SALES, ETC.**

Unless previously authorized by the Board of Directors and a majority vote of the Chapter, no solicitations, raffles, ticket sales, or merchandise sales for or on behalf of the Chapter, or any other individual or organization, by individual members shall be permitted.

## **ARTICLE XI SPEECHES**

No member will be permitted to speak on any one subject (Pro) or (Con) more than twice, and the first time no longer than five (5) minutes, and the second time no longer than three (3) minutes, with the exception of a committee report and recommendations and visiting guests who have a message to impart.

## **ARTICLE XII STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

No member will engage in conduct that would reflect poorly on the Chapter while readily identifiable as a Chapter member by their clothing or outerwear.

## **ARTICLE XIII PATCHES**

Section 1. The Rolling Thunder®, Inc. organizational Boot Patch will be displayed on the front of the jacket/vest on the wearer's right side at the bottom of the garment.

Section 2. The Chapter patch will be displayed on the front of the jacket/vest on the wearer's left side at the bottom of the garment.

Section 3. Members will cover or remove any patches or clothing items that display profanity or distasteful content when minor children are or could be present.

Section 4. No member or guest will be allowed to wear any other colors at any Chapter event or meeting for any reason.

Section 5. Members will not wear the Chapter patch in conjunction with any other colors.

## **ARTICLE XIV DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

Section 1. Any and all complaints against a Chapter member shall be made in writing and presented to a Chapter officer or member of the Board of Directors and forwarded to the Chapter President.

Section 2. The complaint will be read at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors or at a special called Board of Directors meeting for that purpose, depending upon the seriousness of the complaint or charge.

Section 3. The complainant, affected member, and any witnesses may be called to appear before a disciplinary hearing. The complainant and affected member shall be notified in writing and shall be given at least seven (7) days notice to appear when possible.

Section 4. The Disciplinary procedure will then be conducted in accordance with Section 26-33 of the National Constitution.

#### **ARTICLE XV** **ADMINISTRATION**

Section 1. Every member of this Chapter shall keep the Chapter Secretary and Treasurer advised of his/her current address and telephone number by promptly reporting any change of same.

Section 2. One copy of these By-Laws shall be issued to each member of the Chapter.

Section 3. In all Chapter procedures not provided for by the National Constitution and these Chapter By-laws, *Robert's Rules of Order* shall be the authority.

#### **ARTICLE XVI** **CHAPTER LOGO**

The Chapter logo is a copyrighted item and will not be copied or used in any form without expressed written authorization. Individuals wishing to use the logo must submit a written request to the Board of Directors with a detailed statement of the desired use of the Chapter Logo and obtain written approval from the Board of Directors prior to use of the logo.

#### **ARTICLE XVII** **ACTION TAKEN WITHOUT A MEETING**

The Board of Directors shall have the right to take any action in the absence of a meeting which they could take at a meeting by obtaining the approval of the majority of the Board of Directors. This action may be accomplished by phone, email or other electronic means as the Chairman of the Board and President see fit. The motion / issue shall be presented to all board members verbatim. The Chairman will provide a written synopsis of the approval to include a by name listing of votes to be filed with the

minutes of the next meeting of the Board of Directors. Any action so approved shall have the same effect as though taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE XVIII** **AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. These By-Laws shall become effective in accordance with Section 13 & 14 of the National Constitution.

Section 2. These By-Laws may be amended by the Chapter by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a monthly meeting thereof, provided however, such amendments have been read at the preceding monthly meeting and members notified via the Chapter newsletter of the contents of the amendments and the date on which the proposed amendments are to be presented for adoption. All amendments shall be forwarded to the National Vice President to be presented to the National Executive Officers and Board of Directors for their review. If the proposed amendments are approved by National, they will be instituted immediately upon notification of the approval by National.

Section 3. Wherever these By-Laws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future National Constitution, the latter shall prevail and be binding upon this Chapter as though written herein.

**ENDORSEMENT:**

These By-Laws are adopted, subject to the review of the National Vice President, National Executive Officers and Board of Directors, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008, at a regular meeting of the Chapter in the City of Johnson City and County of Washington, State of Tennessee.

Rolling Thunder®, Inc., Tennessee Chapter 4

Rolling Thunder®, Inc.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
President

OFFICIAL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary