



**New Jersey Department
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Headquarters
Jgcivilwar1@gmail.com**

June 7th 2023

**Department Order #2
Online, Social Media Conduct and use of Protected Material**

Brothers of the Department of New Jersey,

We are at a point where social media, online communities and immediate electronic communication is the norm, therefore we must adjust to it. This includes social media e.g., Facebook and Twitter, online communities such as chat rooms and video channels e.g., YouTube. While we are representing the SUVCW, our online conduct reflects the Organization as a whole.

Our national officers had issued a Social Media policy in March 2017 (revised 7-31-2022) as well as an Electronic Communications policy in November 2008. Both can be found here <https://suvcw.org/national-policies>.

This was sent out in August of 2022 from national and subsequently to our camps elected officers to be distributed to our brothers state wide. Since then, there has been a few circumstances that have led me to believe that the policy has not been adhered to properly and that it must be addressed.

Healthy discussions and debates are welcome, what is not welcome is name calling, degradation or slander. Take a step back, pause, recount your thoughts, in this world of instant communication our quick actions can lead to regret almost as fast. In a situation that becomes out of norm, best option is to stop responding. If this does not stop the issue than follow the chain of command to address the issue at hand.

In addition to our conduct the use of personal data, images and copyrighted material can also be a liability. Laws exist for the use of these items. We have many brothers who are equipped to answer our questions if we need help or just refer to the policies on our main page as mentioned earlier. Follow the chain of command if you come across a situation rather than do something that may get you and the SUVCW into a predicament.

I highly recommend that all camp officers, and department officers take the Memorial University found here <https://www.suvcwmu.org>. This will help you navigate the C&R and give a better understanding on the policies and inner workings of the organization.

I therefore issue this Department order that all Camps download and discuss, at their next possible meeting, the National policy on social media and electronic communications. I also order that Camp Officers familiarize their Camps Brothers on the Memorial University.

Ordered this day June 7th 2023

Jay J. Godin

Br. Jay J. Godin

Commander

Department of New Jersey

SUVCW