

April 14, 2026

Public Relations/Information Exchange Committee.

The Public Relations Committee met at the Department of Illinois Headquarters at 10 AM on April 11, 2026. Members attending the meeting were Paul Garrett (Chairman), Jerry Howard (Vice Chairman) and Thomas Strossner. Not present were Robert Gardner and Thomas Seaman. The guest was Josefina Frances. Visitors were Commander Roy Smith, Sr. Vice Commander Celeste Latham and Adjutant Josh Thielen.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the following.

1. The Committee will continue to contact all Divisions, Districts and Posts about the current program and remind them that all applications for rewards must be at Department of IL. by June 1, 2026.
2. The Committee agreed to include organizations that regularly promote our Post activities and programs. We understand that some communities are losing traditional news media. So, other organizations that “advertise and communicate Post programs” shall be considered for awards.
3. We will continue to communicate to all Districts the use of public relations to increase community knowledge of their local Post.
4. We will provide the Department of IL. a final report by May 31, 2026.

Report transcribed by Jerry Howard, Vice Chairman.