



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI

[www.suvcwmo.org](http://www.suvcwmo.org)

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Commander

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**Department Order No. 12**  
**Series 2025-2026**  
**1 March 2026**

**Resignation of Brother Dawson Ballard as Junior Vice Commander**

I received word that effective immediately Brother Ballard will be stepping down as Camp Secretary – Treasurer for Westport Camp #64 as well as his post as Junior Vice Commander to the Department of Missouri. He shared with me that his decision came after much thought.

I have been in contact with Department Council member and Department Secretary - Gary Scheel, PDC - to direct him to notify Robert Amsler Jr. PDC and Ed Millinger CC, also members of the council, to seek a replacement for Brother Ballard's vacated position of Department Junior Vice Commander as soon as possible.

Correspondence has also been sent to Brian Smarker, PDC and Camp Council member of Westport Camp #64 to inform him of Brother Ballard's decision to step down from his duties as a Camp Officer. I have directed him to contact Thomas Hindsley, SVC/ Council to have them find a replacement for Camp Secretary – Treasurer position as soon as possible.

I have encouraged Brother Ballard to stay on as the Secretary – Treasurer until a replacement can be found. I also encouraged Brother Ballard to continue his membership with Westport Camp #64 and to be an active member to help Westport to continue to prosper. Please help encourage him and pray for him as he made this difficult decision.

Ordered this 1<sup>st</sup> Day of March 2026,

Attest:

Mark Coplin, PCC  
Commander  
Department of Missouri SUVCW

Gary Scheell, PDC  
Secretary  
Department of Missouri SUVCW