

# UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INCORPORATED

## Mobile Bay Base

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### CONSTITUTION

### REVISION 1



*Chartered May17, 1997*

This document contains the official Constitution of the Mobile Bay Base of the USSVI.

**UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INCORPORATED  
MOBILE BAY BASE  
CONSTITUTION  
REVISION 1**

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The official name of this Base of United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated shall be the Mobile Bay Base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated (USSVI).

**ARTICLE II – EFFECTIVITY**

This document is in effect upon receipt of authorization by the Base Secretary from the East South District 3 Commander, and when having been presented to the members at the next business meeting, for fiscal and dues considerations, and shall continue to survive through changes and amendments thereto, provided that such changes and amendments have been documented as provided for herein. Any amendments to this document shall also be submitted to the East South District 3 Commander for final approval.

**ARTICLE III - PURPOSE**

Section 1: Statement of Purpose/Creed

*To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice are a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.*

Section 2: Other Purposes and Goals

*A. The Mobile Bay Base shall provide a way for all Submariners to gather for mutual benefit and enjoyment. Our common heritage as submariners shall be strengthened by camaraderie. We support a strong U. S. Submarine Force.*

*B. We also support the Historic Naval Submarine Museum, USS Drum (SS 228) which is presently on display at the USS Alabama Battleship Veterans Memorial Park at Mobile, Alabama and the Battleship Memorial Park Board of Commissioners in the maintenance and repair of the USS Drum (SS 228).*

**ARTICLE IV - POLICY**

Section 1: The Mobile Bay Base shall not adopt any policy that is in conflict with the laws and practices of the United States Government, the Constitution of the United States or with the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 2: In the case of conflict, the USSVI National Constitution and By-Laws take precedent over the Base Constitution and By-Laws

## **ARTICLE V - FISCAL YEAR**

Section 1: The fiscal year of the Base shall commence on the first day of January and end on the thirty-first day of December each year.

V.II. The Base Treasurer shall submit a financial End of Year Report to the National Treasurer as directed during the first quarter of the new year.

## **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Membership is open to those who meet the criteria as defined in the Base By-Laws

Section 2: Since its Charter on May 17, 1997, to be a member of the Base, membership in good standing in the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated is required.

Section 3: Members may join any number of Bases, but only one Base shall be their primary Base. Regular members may only vote in their primary Base in the District, Regional and National elections of the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated.

## **ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS**

Section 1: The elected offices of the Mobile Bay Base will be Commander, Vice-Commander, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2: One person may fill both the elected offices of Secretary and Treasurer.

Section 3: Provisions, prerequisites and requirements for nomination and election of Base officers shall be as defined in the Base By-Laws

## **ARTICLE VIII – STRUCTURE**

The Mobile Bay Base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Incorporated is a part of the East South Region, East South Region District 3.

## **ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS**

Section 1: The Mobile Bay Base will conduct Regular Monthly Business Meetings at the USS Alabama Battleship Veterans Memorial Park on the third Saturday of each month.

Section 2: Meeting times, places, and procedures will be as established in the Mobile Bay Base By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE X –VOTING**

Voting on Base matters will be as established in the Base By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE XI – AMMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

Any primary Base member may recommend changes to the Base Constitution by submitting the proposed change(s) in writing to any elected officer who will submit the proposed change for consideration and recommendation by the Mobile Bay Base Board of Directors. Procedures for submitting and voting Constitutional changes (amendments) are as prescribed in the Base By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE XII – CONFLICTS AND INTERPRETATIONAL DISPUTE**

Section 1: In the event of any conflict between any part and parts of the Mobile Bay Base Constitution and By-Laws and the National Constitution or By-Laws of this organization, the wording and intent of the National Constitution and By-Laws shall prevail.

Section 2: The Base Commander shall be the primary authority regarding the interpretation of any Article(s), Section(s), and/or Paragraph(s) of the Mobile Bay Base Constitution.

Section3: Any dispute(s) brought to the attention of the Base Commander by any Regular Member in good standing, regarding the interpretation of any Article(s), Section(s) and or Paragraph(s), either within the By-Laws and/or between the By-Laws and the Constitution, shall be adjudicated by the Base Commander, with the concurrence of the majority of the Board of Directors.

Section 4: Upon notification of the adjudicated ruling, the Member shall have three business days to inform the Base Commander of his intent to appeal the ruling by bringing it to the membership for a vote at the next regularly scheduled Business Meeting. If such notification of intent is not received within the time frame allotted, then the ruling will stand and the outcome of the vote of the membership will be considered the final action on said dispute.

Section 5: No further or other appeal process is available to the member unless the continued dispute relates to a provision that is in conflict with the USSVI Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 6: If necessary/or appropriate, the Commander shall cause the disputed By-Law Article(s), Section(s) and or Paragraph(s) to be rewritten, to reflect any adjudicated or voted upon change and/or to correct any ambiguity inherent in the Article (s), Section(s) or Paragraph(s) challenged and/or disputed.

## **ARTICLE XIII– CHAPTER DISSOLUTION**

In the event of Mobile Bay Base's dissolution, whether voluntarily or in the case of Charter revocation, all assets and moneys of the same shall be turned over to the National Senior Vice President of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

## ARTICLE XIV – SIGNATURES

Section 1: The Mobile Bay Base, by a vote of its membership on August 15, 2009, has caused the Mobile Bay Base Master Constitution document to be updated, to reflect the will of the membership, and to be filed as Revision #1 to the original Master Base Constitution, as of the first date appearing below.

Section 2: Upon the complete signing, this will become the Master Constitution that together with the current Master Mobile Bay Base By-Laws, shall govern the Mobile Bay Base of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

On this, the 15<sup>h</sup> day of the month of August in the year 2009.

Alan T. Ferdinandsen  
Base Commander

8/15/2009  
Date

Tom Bowser  
Base Vice Commander

8/15/2009  
Date

David Dalby  
Base Secretary/Treasurer

8/15/2009  
Date

John King  
Approved by East South District 3 Commander

8/19/2009  
Date