**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA**

**1601 7TH STREET, SANGER, CA 93657-2801**

**103 Annual Department Convention, Visalia, California**

**June 24-26, 2022**

**THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT IN TRIPLICATE**

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**Resolution No. \_2022-011\_**

**Subject: ENDORSEMENT FOR NATIONAL COMMANDER**

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**(DO NOT FILL ABOVE THIS LINE)**

**ENDORSEMENT OF AUTREY B JAMES JR. FOR NATIONAL COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION**

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. earned his eligibility for membership in The American Legion through honorable service as a member of the United States Coast Guard and United States Coast Guard Reserve from August 1990 until August 2000; and,

WHEREAS, he served with honor in the Coast Guard as a Law Enforcement Boarding Officer working in the area of commercial vessel inspections, vessel safety compliance and search and rescue; and,

WHEREAS, he served during the Gulf War as part of a Port Security Force responsible for the safety and security of four high endurance cutters and U. S. Coast Guard Island Base Alameda; and,

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. worked for 24 years as a Police Officer retiring as a Police Sergeant after working patrol division, investigation assignments in sexual assault unit, crimes against children unit, gang unit, Vice-Narcotics units, and the homicide unit; and,

WHEREAS, he held ancillary assignments as a Crisis Negotiator, Supervisor of the Crisis Negotiation Team, Regional Trainer in Crisis Negotiations, Forensic Interview Specialist; and,

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. while working as a Police Sergeant began and completed Law School at an ABA Approved Law School in California; and,

WHEREAS, he has been admitted to practice law in the State Bar of California, The United States District Court, Northern District of California, The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; and,

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. worked 17 years as an Assistant I Deputy Prosecutor, trying numerous criminal cases from simple theft to special circumstances homicide cases, was assigned to make all Felony plea offers in the northern portion of Alameda County California; and,

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. is a 17 year paid up for life member of Harding-Noia American Legion Post 161 in the Department of California; and,

WHEREAS, he has served The American Legion with distinction in the following positions, Post Commander, Post Adjutant, District Commander, Department Judge Advocate, Department Training Commission Chair, Department Commander; and,

WHEREAS, after returning from National Legion College in 2014, Autrey developed, funded through donations and implemented The First Legion College in the Department of California; and,

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. has served as a member of the National Americanism Council, National Finance Commission, National American Legion Charities, assigned to assist National Commander Oxford’s committee investigating a Department within the American Legion, National Commander Dillard’s committee to study Membership Processing during the 2022-23 Year, and serves as The American Legion representative on the Veterans, and Families Task Force advising the Presidential Commission preparing for the celebration of America’s 250th Birthday in 2026; and,

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. continues working with other local Veterans organizations in his community to develop and implement a Veterans stand down, developing a Veterans park in the local community, renaming streets for local veterans from the community; and,

WHEREAS, Autrey B James Jr. has through his many years of experience, dedication and hard work, has served as a loyal and respected legionnaire and has demonstrated that he has the qualifications most needed in a leader such as National Commander; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That The American Legion, Department of California at Department Convention assembled in Visalia California, June 24-26, 2022, hereby endorses Autrey B James Jr. for the high office of National Commander of The American Legion.

**Author of Resolution**

Autrey James, Department of California

**This resolution has been adopted by the following organizations within the Department of California and will be presented as one resolution at the Department Convention:**

**Post 20 – Porterville**

**Post 228 – Benjamin Bowie – Los Angeles**

**Post 252 – Jackie Robinson – Los Angeles**

**Post 383 – Fair Oaks**

**Post 384 – Cathay Post - San Francisco**

**Post 365 – Vista**

**Post 502 - Moorpark**

**District 8**

(Copies will be on file)