The December 2024 Chapter meeting was held at Rolling Oaks Baptist Church, 6401 Wenzel Road, San Antonio, TX 78233.

Meeting Opened: Commander Kathy Kaberides opened the meeting at 10:00 am.

Opening Prayer: Jr. Vice Commander Karla Jordan

Pledge: Jr. Vice Commander Karla Jordan

Officers present:

- Commander.
- Jr. Vice Commander, Karla Jordan
- Officer-of-the-Day, Donald Smith
- Sergeant-at-Arms Rickey Vasquez
- Officers excused: Sr. Vice Commander Joseph Harrison, Jr;
 Treasurer/Judge Advocate Gwendolyn Thompson; Chaplain Clyde T. Bragg,
 Jr., and Immediate Past Commander Luis Baez. Office of Adjutant is vacant.

Officers absent: None.

There was a quorum for conducting business.

Commander Kaberides submitted her resignation to Jr. Vice Commander Karla Jordan. The Jr. Vice Commander read the resignation to the membership.

Jr. Vice Commander Jordan then read an email acceptance from Joseph Harrison, Jr. to confirm he would accept the position of Commander IAW our Constitution and Bylaws, thereby vacating the Sr. Vice Commander position. In his same email, the now Commander Harrison requested the appointment of Kathy Kaberides as his Adjutant.

Motion: A motion was requested to appoint Kathy Kaberides as the Adjutant for the Chapter.

- Motion made by: Bob Broff
- Motion 2nd by: Jeff Berg
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

Jr. Vice Commander Jordan then announced to the membership that she would be staying in place, thereby leaving the Sr. Vice Commander position vacant. The Jr. Vice Commander then asked for nominations for the position of Sr. Vice Commander. Adjutant Kaberides nominated Keven Lomax, Sr. for the position of Sr. Vice Commander. Jr. Vice Commander Jordan then asked two more times if there were any nominations for the position of Sr. Vice Commander. Hearing none, nominations were closed.

The Jr. Vice Commander then proceeded with the election, asking that those members present to please raise their hands if voting for Keven Lomax, Sr. to take the position of Sr. Vice Commander. The ayes were unanimous.

Immediate Past Commander Kathy Kaberides administered the oath of office and installed Sr. Vice Commander Keven Lomax, Sr.

Reading of minutes:

Reading of minutes from November 16, 2024, Alamo 5 Chapter meeting.

Motion: Dispense with the reading of the November 16, 2024, Chapter meeting minutes because members were provided with a hard copy of the minutes.

- Motion made by: E. G. Mais
- Motion 2nd by: Ann Gayer
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.
- Are there any omissions or corrections? Yes.
 - o Correction of Ann Gayer's name on page one.

Motion to approve November 16, 2024, chapter meeting minutes with correction.

- Motion made by: Diana Barrera
- Motion 2nd by: Priscilla Mayfield
- Any discussion? No
- Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The members were provided with the following handouts encompassing the financial reports for the month of November 2024.

- The treasurer will review the handouts to the members at our next meeting.
 - Bank reconciliation report as of the end of November 2024.
 - Monthly Financial Report by line category November 2024.

Chaplain's Report:

Adjutant Kaberides reported in the Chaplain's absence to please add Aly Vasquez, Nancy Vasquez, Brad Wallace, and Donovan Thompson to the prayer list. Names added to the prayer list:

Introduction of new members: None

Transfer Requests: None

First Time Visitors: Tommy Cunningham - Army; Arturo Cabanella - Army; and Hazel Wong - US Air Force.

Sergeant-at-Arm's Report:

There was a total of 45 members present. We also had 2 guests present.

Communications: Adjutant Kaberides read the following correspondences:

- We received an email from TX C.U.R.E. regarding their first Public Education Employer Fair and their inaugural gala/fundraiser. Their website is www.txcureinc.org.
- An email was received from the National Commander, Subject: Information Alert: Landmark Legislation Passed.
- We received a Christmas Card from W. R. Hold Chapter 147 and one from DAVA Unit 5.

Reports:

- Membership Report: Sr. Vice Commander Lomax reported that the chapter membership documented Total Lifetime members at 5,799. The membership goal is 5,764. The chapter goal reached is 100.61%. The chapter variance was over by 35 members. As of December 17, 2024, there have been 79 deceased members and 70 new members.
- Benefits Protection Team Lead: Adjutant Kaberides reported in the BPTL's absence that the Senator Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act passed in the Senate and the House and was headed to the President's desk to be signed into law. She also informed members that the DAV Commander's Action Network (CAN) sent nearly 90,000 email messages to lawmakers. This is why we all need to sign up for CAN.
- Women Veterans Advocate: Our Women Veterans Advocate Priscilla Mayfield provided information for female veterans to reach out to if they're having trouble receiving the medical care, they need or the preferred type of provider (male or female). The POC for issues for females ONLY is Carli Guzman, the Women Veteran Program Manager for San Antonio. Her number is 210-949-9449 and her email is carli.guzman@va.gov. Priscilla also provided a list of events coming up at Endeavors (for all veterans). Last, she asked female members what they would like in the form of an event for them as she is looking at hopefully having the chapter host one soon.
- Hospitality Committee: Sgt-at-Arms Rickey Vasquez reported that the blue ticket he passed out was for drawings of prizes during lunch. He thanked those on his committee and the volunteers from DAVA Unit 5 who volunteered, especially his daughter Roz Van Honval, who was home visiting

but gladly came in to organize the staff in the kitchen. There was also a bakeoff of desserts for which prizes were given out.

- V.G. Clark Cancer Relief Fund Committee: Deferred until the next meeting.
- LVAP Coordinator Report: Jr. Vice Commander Karla Jordan informed us that 18 members reported their LVAP hours. The LVAP pins received this month were 100 hours for Keven Lomax, Sr.; 100 hours for Priscilla Mayfield; and 3,000 hours for Kathy Kaberides. She reminded the members that she's available to help reporting their hours if they need it.
- Veteran Assistance Committee: Deferred.
- <u>Lead CSO</u>: Larry Whatley informed members that a Claims Day was held the day before and that 4 Chapter Service Officers (CSO's) were present and assisted 9 veterans with claims and claim issues.

Unfinished Business:

 Reminder that the Department of Texas District 20 Conference will be held January 10-11, 2025, in Kerrville, TX so there will NOT be a regular chapter meeting.

New Business:

Motion: Motion made to approve one (1) Line Officer, Sr. Vice Commander Kevin Lomax, Sr., as a delegate to attend the National 2025 Mid-Winter Conference February 23-26, 2025, in Arlington, VA. Reimbursement cost is max at \$1,500.00. This conference is additional training for a new member on the Line.

- Motion made by: Reynaldo Rodriguez
- Motion 2nd by: Obie Bedford
- Any Discussion: No
- Motion passed.

Motion: Motion to approve any chapter members wanting to attend the National 2025 Mid-Winter Conference February 23-26, 2025, in Arlington, VA at their own expense. No motion was made as no chapter members were interested in attending at their own expense.

Good-of-the-Order:

 Lisa "Teddy" Lantrip presented the chapter with a check in the amount of \$2,500 and told members that she has received so much help from the chapter and officers over the past several years that she wanted to give back to the chapter.

- Sgt-at-Arms Rickey Vasquez attended a week-long retreat with Warrior Path. Warrior Path - "Everyone Struggles Post Traumatic Growth" with the Boulder Crest Foundation offers ways to go from struggle to strength by providing a path to post traumatic growth. He highly recommends this program.
- Collection of toiletry essentials for Homeless Women Veterans today along with a collection of canned goods/non perishables for the San Antonio Food Bank
- Next NSO Seminar is January 16, 2025 at the VFW in Schertz from 9am-3pm.
- If you park at the San Antonio airport and have plates that allow you to park for free, if you scan the QR code in the garage (to pay), DO NOT ENTER ANY CREDIT CARD or your card will be charged as soon as you exit the garage. Instead, leave the garage and proceed to the DV exit booth (even if you don't have DV plates but may have one of the military medals). Provide your registration and ID and you will be able to exit for free. They no longer use tickets. Everything is Al.
- Final reminder for DOD ID cards that are outdated. January 1, 2025, your card will be confiscated at the base gates. To renew due to 100% VA disability, not retired, bring your 100% disability letter to get your new ID card.
- Remember that VA ID cards also have an expiration date in the middle of your card, so check it to be sure you don't get dropped from the system.
- 50/50 Drawing: \$100 won by Karla Jordan.
- Members with birthdays in the month of December Al Owens, Gary Sanders, Renaldo Rodriguez, Manuel Rico, Martin Vega and Alberto Talamantes.
- No anniversaries for December.
- No meeting in January due to the Department of Texas Conference in Kerrville.

Upcoming Chapter events:

Next Meeting: February 15, 2025, at Rolling Oaks Baptist Church, 6401 Wenzel Road, San Antonio, Tx 78233.

Memorial Service: A moment of silence for our departed comrades.

Closing Prayer: Jr. Vice Commander Karla Jordan

Meeting adjourned: at 10:59 am

Date 20 Jan 2025

Date 20 Jan 2025

Kathleen Kaberides

Adjutant, DAV Alamo Chapter 5

Keven Lomax, Sr.

Sr. Vice Commander, DAV Alamo Chapter 5