



Sons of Confederate Veterans Florida Division, Inc.

21 September 2011

STANDING OPERATING PROCEDURE #2011-10

Sentinel Program

1. **SUPERSESSSION**: None
2. **PURPOSE**: To establish a policy for the Florida Division concerning the maintenance, accountability and responsibility for the Flags Across Florida sites.
3. **APPLICABILITY**: The Florida Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and all Camps within the Florida Division.
4. **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**: The Sentinel Program is a cooperative agreement between the Florida Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans and selected camps to enhance the Flags Across Florida sites. Sentinel Camps will follow a uniform procedure, as listed in item 7, for the routine maintenance and minor repair of their Flags Across Florida Site utilizing their camp members and assets. The grounds, flag pole and other improvements to the site will be kept neat, clean, and orderly at all times.

Whereas the Flags Across Florida Sites represent pride in our Southern Heritage and Soldiers, it is the highest honor a camp can receive to be designated a *Sentinel Camp*.

5. **RESPONSIBILITY**:

- a. The Florida Division Commander, Sons of Confederate Veterans is responsible for the selection of Sentinel Camps, management and control of the Sentinel Program with the approval of the Florida Division GEC.

b. Sentinel Camps shall be accountable for the maintenance, preservation and repair of their designated Flags Across Florida site.

6. RECOGNITION: Camps within the Florida Division designated as a Sentinel Camp shall be afforded special acknowledgment as listed below;

A sign and or plaque may be erected at the flag site acknowledging the name of the
Sentinel Camp

Battle Streamer for Camp Flag

Sentinel Camp listing in the Blockade Runner

Reserved seating as available at the Florida Division Reunion

7. SENTINEL PROGRAM:

a. Camps who want to be designated as a Sentinel Camp must request in writing detailing their ability to provide the manpower and logistics required to maintain their designated Flags Across Florida site.

Written requests must include, but are not limited to, the following information.

Camp Name and Number
Camp's Location to the requested Flags Across Florida Site
Number of Camp members
Why the Camp should be selected
Proposed maintenance program

b. Completed applications must be signed by the Camp Commander and forwarded to the Florida Division Commander for his review and approval.

c. The Florida Division Commander will inform the requesting Camp Commander on the status of his request and if approved, they will determine a date the Camp will begin the program.

d. Designated Sentinel Camps will use their own camp funds to facilitate site maintenance and minor repairs not to exceed \$200.00 per occurrence.

e. Sentinel Camps will ensure their flag site is continually maintained in such a condition that will reflect the pride and honor the Florida Divisions and its membership

have for our Southern Soldiers and their flags.

f. Sentinel Camp Commanders must strive to maintain an extra flag for their site in case of emergencies, extra flags will be provided by the Division.

g. Sentinel Camps will follow the Florida Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans guidelines on the flying of Confederate flags at their flag site. See guidelines listed below.

During the year, the Army of Tennessee Battle Flag (A.K.A. Naval Jack) or the 3rd National Confederate Flag are the only flags that will be flown at Flags Across Florida sites with the exception of the following dates.

On the 4th of July the Betsy Ross Flag may be flown if available.

Robert E. Lee's Birthday week: AOT Battle Flag, 3rd National Flag, or ANV Headquarters Flag (if available).

The 3rd National Confederate Flag will be flown exclusively on the dates listed below.

- Three days before and after Florida's Secession Date (January 10)
- The entire Month of April
- Three days before and after Jefferson Davis's Birthday (June 3)
- Three days before and after Joseph Finnegan's birthday (November 17)

No other Flags may be flown without the express consent, and by majority vote, of the Florida Division General Executive Council:

Flags must be taken down from flag sites a minimum of 24 hours in advance of an expected tropical storms or hurricanes.

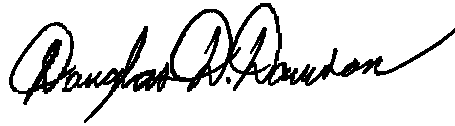
8. **REQUISITION OF FLORIDA DIVISION FLAGS:** Sentinel Camps should request flags for their flag site through the Flags Across Florida Committee Chairman, who will consult with the Treasurer and Division Commander prior to procurement. Requests must be 3 months in advance of their required use to ensure our flags keep flying.

9. **PROHIBITIONS:** The following prohibitions are in effect for this program.

a. The solicitation and/or collection of funds or donations for Flags Across Florida sites by Sentinel Camps, their officers, agents, or members, is not permitted without prior authorization from the Division General Executive Council. Any authorized funds

collected are to be deposited directly into the Division Bank Account designated for Flags Across Florida.

b. Sentinel Camps are not authorized to construct, plan, alter or change any part of the flag site except for the planting of grass or plants for landscaping purposes without the express consent of the Florida Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Douglas Dawson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "D".

Douglas Dawson
Commander