

FEDERAL STATUTE
UNITED STATES CODE ANNOTATED
Title 18 - Crimes and Criminal Procedures

§705. Badge or medal of veterans' organizations

Whoever knowingly manufactures, reproduces, sells or purchases for resale, either separately or on or appended to, any article of merchandise manufactured or sold, any badge, medal, emblem, or insignia or any colorable imitation thereof, of any veterans' organization incorporated by enactment of Congress, or of any organization formally recognized by any such veterans, organization as an auxiliary of such veterans' organization, or knowingly prints, lithographs, engraves or otherwise reproduces on any poster, circular, periodical, magazine, newspaper, other publication, or circulates or distributes any such printed matter bearing a reproduction of such badge, medal, emblem, or other insignia or any colorable imitation thereof, except when authorized under rules and regulations prescribed by any such organization, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than six months, or both.

(As amended Sept. 13, 1994, Pub.L. 103-322, Title XXXIII, § 330016(1)(E), 108 Stat. 2146.)

The fines for violating § 705 are established in § 3571 entitled "Sentence of Fine." They may be summarized as follows:

1. **Fines for individuals.** An individual who has been found guilty of an offense may be fined the greatest of not more than \$5,000 or as provided in (3).
2. **Fines for organizations.** An organization that has been found guilty of an offense may be fined the greatest of not more than \$10,000 or as provided in (3).
3. **Alternative fine based on gain or loss.** If any person derives pecuniary gain from the offense, or if the offense results in pecuniary loss to a person other than the defendant, the defendant may be fined not more than the greater of twice the gross gain or twice the gross loss.

VFW Manual of Procedure

Sec. 803--Manufacture and Use of Seals, Emblems, Badges, Insignia and Uniforms.

AUTHORITY TO MANUFACTURE. The seals, emblems, badges and insignia of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, or goods bearing same, shall be manufactured only on order of or with the express written consent of the Commander-in-Chief, Quartermaster General, or with the express written consent of the National Convention or the National Council of Administration. No subordinate unit, member or person shall engage, by contract or otherwise, for the manufacture of such seals, badges, emblems or insignia, or goods bearing same, unless it or he shall have first obtained written consent for doing so from the Commander-in-Chief, Quartermaster General, the National Convention or the National Council of Administration.

VFW By-Laws

Sec. 804--Official Name.

The official name of this organization is "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States." The name may be abbreviated to read "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.," "Veterans of Foreign Wars, U.S.," "Veterans of Foreign Wars" and "VFW" on seals, emblems, badges and insignia and in other cases when it would be desirable to shorten the title.

Sec. 805--Trademarks; Service Mark

No person shall use any name mentioned and described in Section 804, or any other trade name, trademark, service mark and/or membership mark of this Organization in connection with any financial, commercial or other business activity without the express written authorization of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.