



May 12, 2022

Ms. Taylor Savage, DES, CTA, CFMB
Experience Columbus
National Sales Manager
277 W. Nationwide Blvd. Ste. 125
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Taylor:

Thank you for a competitive bid seeking our 108th National Convention in 2027. Unfortunately, Columbus, Ohio, was not selected to host our 2027 National Convention. We offer the following comments as voiced by members of our Convention Commission and as seen by the site visit team:

1. The presentation was very professional. Your passion and excitement were portrayed throughout.
2. Having the support of the Department of Ohio was seen.
3. Hotel rates, on average, were comparable.
4. The commission felt the Hyatt's stipulation impacted their bid package.
5. A very nice concession package was offered, and it was appreciated, thank you.
6. The convention center met the requirements; however, in comparison, additional ancillary concessions were offered which will impact the overall bottom-line. A guaranteed coffee price, guaranteed internet price (which was four times less), guaranteed power and rigging cost; and finally, a 24% AV discount on all breakout rooms; coupled with complimentary room resets, lectern with microphone in all breakout rooms.
7. The Commission would like to have seen another option for the Opening and/or Closing reception versus just the Center.
8. A member of the Commission asked about security and safety in the city. The member felt the question was not answered. Recommend addressing a slide in your presentation about the overall safety and security.

We understand that you are considering a bid on our National Convention for 2028. We hope you take these recommendations to place your best foot forward. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma is the other city bidding on 2028. We appreciate your efforts, your team at Experience Columbus, and your convention center staffs and hoteliers in the city. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. We wish you continued success in the future.

Sincerely,

Bridget

Bridget A. Robinson, CMP, CMM
Director of National Convention & Meetings
The American Legion National Headquarters

Cc: Mike Walton, Chairman, Convention Commission
Department of Ohio