

# MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION

## FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

### LODGE #107



## BYLAWS

As Adopted \_\_\_\_\_

***PRESIDENT***

*Russel May*

***VICE PRESIDENT***

*Chris Kennedy*

**PROUD TO BE FOP**

## **ARTICLE I. Association Name**

### **Section 1.**

This organization shall be known as **MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107**.

## **ARTICLE II. Definitions**

### **Section 1.**

As used herein, the following terms, phrases or words shall be defined as follows:

- A. "Full-time employed" shall mean law enforcement officers who are engaged in such employment as their full-time occupation.
- B. "Good cause" shall mean nonfeasance, malfeasance, dishonesty, or refusal to carry out the will of the membership of the MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107.
- C. "Member in good standing" is hereby defined to be a member who has paid all dues and assessments due and payable to or for the Grand Lodge, State Lodge, and MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107, or who is not more than ninety (90) days in arrears of such payments as of the date specified for the payment thereof.
- D. "Regularly appointed law enforcement officer" shall mean, for purposes hereof, any law enforcement officer who meets the minimum standards, has received the training and education required by the United States, the state, the political subdivision or agency by which they are appointed, and is granted arrest powers.
- E. "Gender terms such as "he" or "she" - All terms used herein to denominate gender shall be generic and, whenever appropriate, the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular.
- F. "Lodge" or "Association" or "Corporation" for the purposes of these bylaws shall mean MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107.

## **ARTICLE III. Membership**

### **Section 1. Active Members**

Active members shall be restricted to regularly appointed sworn full-time police officers employed by the City of McKinney. However, any retired police officers who were members of the McKinney Police Association or the McKinney Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #107 at the time of the approval of the Agreement to Combine Between the McKinney Police Association and the FOP Lodge #107 may continue as active members in this lodge.

### **Section 2. Honorary Membership**

1. Honorary Membership shall be restricted to individuals recognized by the State Lodge or MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107 for exceptional service or contribution to the State or political subdivision, the law enforcement community or the Fraternal Order of Police.

2. Honorary Member status shall be voted on by the Board of Directors.
3. Benefits- Eligible to attend Lodge functions i.e. meetings, social gatherings, and fund raisers.
4. Restrictions- Honorary Members cannot vote, and cannot make motions pertaining to business between the Lodge and the McKinney Police Department or the Lodge and the City of McKinney or hold any elected offices.

**Section 3. Associate Membership**

Associate Members may include, non-sworn individuals of the McKinney Police Department to include Dispatchers, Crime Scene Technicians, and Public Safety Officers.

1. Benefits- Eligible to attend all Lodge functions i.e. meetings, social gatherings, and fund raisers
2. Restrictions- Associate Members cannot vote, and cannot make motions pertaining to business between the Lodge and the McKinney Police Department or the Lodge and the City of McKinney and cannot hold any elected offices.

**Section 4.**

No person shall be a member of more than one subordinate lodge at the same time nor shall any member who is delinquent, or who has been suspended by another subordinate lodge for any reason, be eligible for membership in this lodge until suspension is lifted.

**Section 5.**

When any membership shall terminate in any manner, the person whose membership has thus been terminated, all persons claiming under, by or through such person shall not be entitled to any refunds of dues or fees paid into, or contributions or donations made to the Lodge, nor any claim whatsoever upon any of the funds, benefits, or property of this Lodge.

**ARTICLE IV. Meetings**

**Section 1.**

The Association shall conduct membership meetings on an as needed basis to update the membership on important issues. The time and date will be set and publicized by the Board of Directors at least 48 hours in advance, and may change from time to time for the good of the order.

**Section 2. Special Membership Meetings**

Special membership meetings shall be called by the President upon the request of four (4) members of the Board of Directors or upon the request of seven (7) members in good standing. Said request shall be in writing, stating the object for which it is being called. Provided, however, that the membership receives notification, at least five (5) days prior to any special meeting.

### **Section 3. Emergency Meetings**

Emergency meetings of the general membership, or the Board, may be called by the President, or the Board of Directors for the consideration of a particular matter properly presented at any meeting or for a matter where there is not sufficient time to notify the full membership.

### **Section 4. Place of Meeting and Quorum**

The meeting may be designated at any place in which the majority of the board of directors are able to convene, unless it is a general meeting of the membership in which it should be within the geographical area or near the employing law enforcement agency of the membership. The Board of Directors may designate a regular place of meeting.

Quorum for membership meetings shall constitute, a simple majority of the Board of Directors and those members in good standing that are present. A quorum for a meeting for the Board of Directors shall be met by simple majority.

### **Section 5. Manner of Acting**

The act of a majority of Board Members present in person at a board meeting at which a quorum is present will be the act of the board. A meeting of the Board may be held in person, conference call, by any electronic means including email, or a combination thereof.

The act of a majority of the Active Members present in person at a general membership meeting at which a quorum is present will be the act of the membership, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these bylaws. A meeting may be held in person, conference call, by any electronic means including email, or a combination thereof. All voting will be done by secret ballot online via the McKinney police association fop lodge #107 website or “app” and will remain open for two (2) consecutive weeks.

In a membership meeting, the President may reserve the right to limit debate on a given issue for a “reasonable amount of time”.

When reading of a paper or other matter is called for and the same is objected to by any member, it shall be determined by the vote of the majority during a general meeting or by the majority of the board during a board meeting, whether it shall be read or not. No member of the Association shall vote on a question which directly affects his own personal interest that is not a common interest to other members of the lodge.

Each Active Member will be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.

### **Section 6. Rules of Order**

All meetings shall be conducted according to rules laid down in “Robert’s Rules of Order” except as may be otherwise provided in these bylaws.

## ARTICLE V. Miscellaneous

The fiscal year for MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107 shall be from January 1 to December 31, inclusively, of each calendar year. The tax year for the lodge shall run from January 1 to December 31 of each calendar year.

## ARTICLE VI. Officers and Advisory Committee, Terms and Powers

### **Section 1.**

The Association shall have a Board of Directors (the "Board") and an Advisory Committee.

### **Section 2. Name and Number of Officers**

The Officers of the corporation shall be President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and Sergeant at Arms. The term of each office, with the exception of the Immediate Past President shall be for (2) years. It is provided however that no more than one member of the board of directors can hold the rank above Sergeant in the McKinney Police Department. The term of office for Immediate Past President is until such time as there is a new Immediate Past President. Lodge officers who are promoted to the rank of Lieutenant during their term of office shall upon promotion vacate their position within 6 months if there is already a Board Member above the rank of Sergeant.

### **Section 3. Ineligibility as Officers**

An officer who resigns from office during any elected term shall relinquish all right to and privilege of that office and shall revert to the status of "member". An officer who resigns from active police duty for any reason other than to retire on pension, either for length of service or disability, or otherwise becomes ineligible as an Officer and shall automatically forfeit his office immediately.

### **Section 4. Nomination, Election and Installation**

A. **Officers:** The initial officers shall be:

1. President- Rusty May
2. Vice President- Chris Kennedy
3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President- Jimmy Thomas
4. Secretary- Michele Reed and Robert Ensor, jointly
5. Treasurer- Kyle Wilkerson and Taran Shoemake, jointly
6. Sergeant at Arms- John Walls
7. Immediate Past President- Dan Malenfant

First elections for President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Conductor, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be in December 2017 with those elected to take office effective January 1, 2018 and serving until December 31, 2018.

First elections for Vice President, Sergeant of Arms/Guard shall be in May 2018 with those elected to take office on June 1, 2018 and serving until December 31, 2019.

Beginning in October of 2018, the officers of the corporation shall be elected every 2 years by the membership. Elections shall be held on a staggered basis beginning with the Offices of President, Secretary, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President being held in October on even numbered years and the Offices of Vice President, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms being held in October of odd numbered years.

- B. **Advisory Committee:** Members of the Advisory Committee shall be elected for a two-year term in even numbered years. The number of Advisory Committee members to be elected shall be 3. It is provided however that no more than one member of the board of directors can hold the rank above Sergeant in the McKinney Police Department. Advisory Committee members who are promoted to the rank of Lieutenant during their term of office shall upon promotion vacate their position within 6 months if there is already an Advisory Committee member above the rank of Sergeant. Upon adoption of these bylaws, there shall be 4 initial Advisory Committee members who shall be Russ Goetz, Vincent Roberts, Jason Pruett, and Eric Fromhold. Beginning with the election in October 2018, the Advisory Committee positions held by Pruett and Roberts shall be consolidated to 1 position only, resulting in a total of 3 Advisory Committee members.
  
- C. **Eligibility:** No member shall be nominated for more than one (1) position on the same ballot. Only a member in "good standing" may be nominated for an Officer or an Advisory Committee position. No member shall hold more than 1 office in the Lodge.
  
- D. **Nomination:** Candidates for election to the offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Sergeant at Arms, and Advisory Committee shall be nominated for their positions at the regularly scheduled September general meeting of the Calendar year that their position comes up for election or by an email to the lodge Secretary.
  
- E. **Ballot:** The name of each duly nominated candidate for office shall be placed on the ballot in alphabetical order.
  
- F. **Election:** The election of each office shall be conducted in October in any given year.
  - 1. Regular Voting shall be done by secret ballot via the MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107 website or any "app" associated with the website and will be open for two (2) consecutive weeks. All results will be publicly announced by posting via the Association's website.
  - 2. In the event of a tie for any contested position, a runoff election will take place. The runoff process will last 14 days and will be conducted on the online voting system used by the Lodge. Runoff results will be tabulated and posted publicly. In the event a runoff results in a tie, the Executive Board will determine the winner in keeping with the best interests of the Lodge.
  - 3. A minimum of 2 nominations must be obtained to be placed on voting ballot for office position. In the event of only 1 person running for any position they will be declared the winner by acclamation.

- G. **Installation:** Officer-elect shall be installed by the Past President at the next General Membership meeting and shall take office in accordance with the regular order of business.
- H. **Succession:** A vacancy in any officer or Advisory Committee position of the MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107 shall be filled by a majority vote of the membership in good standing (at a special election called by the lodge President).
- I. **Term Limits:** Members of the Board of Directors with the exception of the Immediate Past President, as well as members of the Advisory Committee may hold office for only 3 consecutive terms in the same position.

## **ARTICLE VII. Board of Directors**

### **Section 1.**

The Board of Directors shall consist of the 7 officers (President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, and Sergeant at Arms).

### **Section 2.**

The Board of Directors shall have and exercise all administrative powers of the lodge. It shall have the power to act in all emergencies pertaining to the welfare of the lodge. The Board shall meet a minimum of 4 times a year. The President or a quorum of the Board, from time to time, may call additional meetings as required, for the purpose of carrying out the administrative, business, and other affairs of this lodge. The President shall preside over the Board.

### **Section 3.**

The Board shall promulgate such rules and regulations as it deems necessary and appropriate to authorize, control, or otherwise conduct the normal business of this lodge. They shall receive no salary for the performance of their duties on the Board.

### **Section 4.**

The Board will act as the Board of Inquiry on all issues of misconduct brought against a member of the Advisory Committee. All other matters of misconduct shall be the responsibility of the Advisory Committee.

### **Section 5.**

No member of the Board may hold any other office where such position would be a conflict of interest. This section does not exclude the member from joining more than one police/law enforcement organization.

### **Section 6.**

Any member of the Board who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without just cause may be subject to removal from office. Such violations will be investigated by the Advisory Committee.

### **Section 7.**

The Board may make monetary expenditures/donations of Lodge funds under the following conditions:

- a. \$0 to \$500 (no vote)
- b. \$501 to \$1,000 (Board vote)
- c. > \$1,000 (Membership vote)

## **ARTICLE VIII. Advisory Committee**

### **Section 1.**

The Advisory Committee shall be the custodians of the lodge's real and tangible personal property. The Advisory Committee shall compile an inventory of all real and tangible personal property belonging to the lodge. The Advisory Committee shall report to the Board of Directors on a yearly basis an inventory of property belonging to the lodge. The Advisory Committee shall, if necessary, set the amount of surety bond paid for by the lodge on the offices of Secretary and Treasurer to insure the faithful performance of their duties. The Advisory Committee shall meet at least once each quarter during the calendar year.

### **Section 2. Number of Advisory Committee Members.**

There shall be 3 Advisory Committee members.

### **Section 3. Temporary Fill-in for Absent Board Members**

An Advisory Committee member may, in the event that either the Second Vice President or Sergeant at Arms are absent at any meetings, fulfill the duties of the respective absentee officer. The Advisory Committee member shall perform other duties from time to time as delegated by the President.

### **Section 4. Allegations of Misconduct**

The Advisory Committee will be the main investigative body in matters of allegations of misconduct against regular members and/or members of the Board. The Advisory Committee shall use the guidelines provided in Article 19 when investigating allegations of misconduct.

## **ARTICLE IX. President**

### **Section 1. Chief Executive Officer**

The President shall be the chief executive officer. He shall preside over all lodge and Board meetings and shall only vote in a Board meeting if there is a tie vote.



## **Section 2. Administrator and Manager**

The President shall administer and manage the business of the lodge between meetings of the Board. The President shall ensure that the Resolutions and Bylaws of this lodge and the orders and actions of the Board are carried out.

## **Section 3. Committees**

There shall be established such committees as the President or Board shall prescribe. The President shall appoint the majority of member to all committees. The President shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the Board, each committee thereof and its chair to inquire into any matter affecting or concerning the lodge. The President shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees of the lodge. There shall be a Labor/Legislative Committee composed of members appointed by the President. Proposed amendments to the Certificate of Formation and Bylaws shall be submitted by the Secretary to the Bylaws Committee. There may be a standing committee known as the Scholarship Committee, the members of which shall be the President, Vice President and the Advisory Committee.

## **Section 4. Lodge Spokesman**

The President shall be the principle spokesman for the Lodge and shall be the only authorized member to speak on behalf of the Lodge and issue news releases. The President may with advice and consent of the Board appoint a spokesman.

## **Section 5. Business Report**

The President shall submit at each regular meeting a report of all official business conducted by him on behalf of the Lodge.

## **Section 6. Special Verbal Authorization**

The President shall be empowered to obtain a vote from all members of the Board of Directors without calling a special meeting in any urgent or emergency matter that comes before the Lodge between regularly schedule meetings. The President shall direct the Lodge Secretary to hold such a vote by electronic means i.e. email, text. The results of said vote shall be recorded at the next regular meeting.

## **Section 7. Appointment of Legal Counsel**

The President, may, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors designate a legal counsel on matters affecting the Lodge.

## **Section 8. Chairman of the Meet and Confer Committee**

The President shall be the chief negotiator for all meet and confer meetings. The President shall determine the size and membership of the team as needed.

## **Section 9. Succession**

Within thirty (30) days after the expiration of his term of office, the President shall convey to his successor all unfinished business and books and records and physical property belonging to the lodge.

## **ARTICLE X. Immediate Past President and all Past Presidents**

### **Section 1.**

The Immediate Past president shall occupy a position on the Board as The Immediate Past President. In order to hold this office, he must remain in good standing with the lodge. The Immediate Past President shall advise and assist the President and Board. Should the Immediate Past President hold another office, he will only be entitled to one position and one vote on the Board. In the event the Immediate Past President is unable or unwilling to fulfill their role the position will remain vacant.

### **Section 2. Chairman of the Election Committee**

The Immediate Past President shall serve on any and all election committees as Chairman. If the Immediate Past President cannot or will not perform the duties of Chairman, the President may, with advice and consent of the Board, choose a replacement.

## **ARTICLE XI. Vice President**

### **Section 1.**

In the absence of the President, or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of, and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. Any Vice President shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the President.

### **Section 2.**

The Vice President shall have minority appointments on all committees with the advice and consent of the Board.

### **Section 3.**

The Vice President shall be the liaison between any auxiliary organizations and the Lodge. The Vice President shall report back to the Board any and all funding requests from the auxiliary organizations.

## **ARTICLE XII. Secretary**

### **Section 1.**

The Secretary shall have custody of books, records, documents, the Seal of the Fraternal Order of Police, and office paraphernalia and equipment under the general authority and order of the President. The Secretary shall take, record and transcribe minutes of the regular meetings, and shall submit the same for approval to the President. The Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the lodge. The Secretary shall attest, under the Seal of the Order, all duly authorized contracts of the lodge. The Secretary shall be the official

custodian of the Bylaws, which shall be authenticated by the Seal of the Order, and the signatures of the President and Secretary.

**Section 2.**

The Secretary shall be responsible for purchase, inventory, and sale of all Fraternal Order of Police merchandise.

**Section 3.**

The Secretary shall, if necessary, furnish a surety bond paid for by the lodge for the faithful performance of his duties in such an amount prescribed by the Advisory Committee.

**Section 4. Administrative Director**

The Secretary, at the direction of the President and with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors may utilize an Administrative Director to handle the daily business of the Lodge. The Secretary will be responsible for the supervision of the Administrative Director.

**Section 5. Custodian of the Certificate of Formation and Bylaws**

The Secretary shall be the official custodian of the Certificate of Formation and Bylaws of the MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107.

**Section 6. Succession**

At the expiration of his term of office and within thirty (30) days thereafter, the Secretary shall deliver to his successor the official Seal of the Order and all books, documents, records, paraphernalia and equipment in his possession, and shall require and receive a receipt thereof.

**ARTICLE XIII. Treasurer**

**Section 1.**

The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all monies of the lodge. He shall, if necessary, furnish a surety bond paid for by the lodge in the amount specified by the Board of Trustees, which is to insure the faithful performance of his duties.

**Section 2.**

The Treasurer shall deposit all monies collected in a bank approved by the Board of Directors. After approval from the Board, the Treasurer shall, when necessary, set up special accounts, for funds and allocate to each, respectively, the amount allocated or collected thereof.

**Section 3.**

The Treasurer shall pay all bills in a timely fashion.

**Section 4.**

The signatures of the President and the Treasurer shall appear on all regular checks. The President may select alternate member of the Board of Directors to sign on the regular account in his or the Treasurer's absence.

**Section 5.**

At the expiration of his term of office and within thirty (30) days thereafter, the Treasurer shall deliver to his successor, all monies, records, books, documents, paraphernalia and equipment in his possession, and shall receive a receipt thereof.

**Section 6.**

The Treasurer shall perform such duties as are usual and incidental to his office, and other duties from time to time delegated by the President.

**ARTICLE XIV. Vice President**

**Section 1.**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall examine membership cards of officers and members, ascertaining that all present at the meeting are in good standing; take up the password and make reports to the President. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall perform other duties from time to time as delegated by the President.

**Section 2.**

In the event the President and Vice President are unable to attend a meeting, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President shall conduct the order of business.

**ARTICLE XV. Sergeant at Arms**

**Section 1.**

The Sergeant at Arms shall have charge and control of the meeting hall, and shall permit only those qualified persons to enter or remain. The Sergeant at Arms shall assist in the duties performed by the Second Vice President, and execute such duties from time to time as delegated by the President.

**ARTICLE XVI. State Trustee**

**Section 1.**

A State Trustee shall be an active member of the Lodge and shall be elected by the membership on a yearly basis in January. The State Trustee shall represent the Lodge at all meetings of the State Board and shall report back to the lodge all information gathered at the meeting.

**ARTICLE XVII. Auxiliaries**

**Section 1.**

The Lodge recognizes, acknowledges and validates Auxiliaries of the Grand Lodge, State Lodges and Subordinate Lodges. Such Auxiliaries may function as Grand Lodge, State Lodge Auxiliaries and Subordinate Lodge Auxiliaries. Such Auxiliaries shall be subject to the control and supervision of the lodge or lodges with which they are affiliated. They shall conform to and be governed by such Bylaws as they shall adopt and which shall, at all

times, be subject to approval of the governing body of the lodge with which they are affiliated and ultimately, the Grand Lodge.

### **ARTICLE XVIII. Auxiliaries International Affiliate Lodges**

#### **Section 1.**

MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107 recognizes, acknowledges and validates international affiliate lodges of the Grand Lodge.

#### **Section 2.**

A member of an international affiliate lodge shall not be eligible to hold office in the MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION FOP LODGE #107.

### **ARTICLE XIX. Discipline**

#### **Section 1.**

This Article shall govern discipline of officers and members of the Lodge and shall be interpreted in such a manner as to afford equity and fairness to all affected thereby.

#### **Section 2.**

Discipline shall be determined by the lodge membership and imposed upon individual members or lodge officers only in extraordinary circumstances where the member or lodge officer has acted or failed to act in respect of a matter of direct and significant importance to the Lodge, or has violated the Certificate of Formation or Bylaws, or has committed acts of disloyalty, or has distributed or used the membership list for any reason without the express permission of the President or Secretary.

#### **Section 3. Individual Members**

- A. Except as otherwise provided herein, individual members shall be disciplined after an inquiry is made by the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee shall:
1. Require the complaint, charge or allegation be made under oath and in writing and provide such facts as may enable the charged party to be fairly apprised of the nature of the charge;
  2. Ensure that the party charged is provided with a copy of such complaint, charge or allegation and given sufficient time, which in any event shall be not less than thirty (30) days, to prepare a defense, if any, thereto;
  3. Conduct a hearing on the matter and limit the scope of the inquiry to the specific complaint(s), charge(s) or allegation(s) set forth in the written notice thereof;
  4. Adhere to an order of procedure which places the burden of proof upon the party charging the member, lodge or national officer;
  5. Permit the parties thereto to introduce documents and exhibits and the testimony of witnesses in accordance with such rules of evidence as may be determined and applied uniformly to such body.

The findings of the Advisory Committee will then be presented to the general membership at a regular or special meeting for final disposition. At the Local level the decision of the General Membership will prevail.

- B. In the case of discipline imposed upon a member involving suspension, expulsion or removal from office by this lodge, an appeal may be taken by the member to the state lodge and an appeal may be taken from the decision of the state lodge by the non-prevailing party to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference.
  - 1. An appeal to the state lodge may be brought by the filing of a written notice of appeal with the state president not more than thirty (30) days after the member's receipt of official notification of his suspension, expulsion, or removal from office. Unless continued or delayed for good cause, such appeal shall be heard by the state lodge at the next board meeting following the state lodge President's receipt of such notice of appeal and, unless waived in writing by both the appealing member and the responding lodge, a written decision shall be rendered by the board within ten (10) days after such meeting. Both the appealing member and the lodge from whose action the appeal is brought shall have the right to a hearing at which both parties may be heard and may present witnesses and documents. The parties to the appeal shall receive notice of the date of the hearing by registered mail not less than ten (10) days before such hearing.
  - 2. The state lodge may sustain, modify or reverse the disciplinary action against the member.
  - 3. In absence of a state lodge, an appeal may be brought directly to the National Board of Trustees in the same manner as is prescribed for appeal to the state lodge officers.
  
- C. In any case of discipline involving suspension, expulsion or removal from office of an individual member initiated by the MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION, or upon decision of the state lodge in respect to an appeal from the action of the MCKINNEY POLICE ASSOCIATION, an appeal may be taken to the National Board of Trustees and, ultimately, to the Biennial Conference.

A party seeking to appeal from the decision of the state lodge shall give notice of appeal to the National Board of Trustees by submitting by registered mail within thirty (30) days of the party's receipt of notice thereof, a written submission consisting of the decision from which the appeal is taken and such other written materials as the appellant deems relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. The appellant shall serve one (1) copy of the notice of appeal (including all written submissions) upon the opposing party (which shall be the state or subordinate lodge secretary where such opposing party is a lodge). Where the appealing party is a subordinate lodge, it shall submit fifty (50) copies thereof and where the appealing party is an individual member, he shall serve one (1) copy thereof upon the National Secretary not less than sixty (60) days prior to the National Board of Trustees meeting at which the appellant seeks to have his appeal heard. The party opposing the appeal shall, within thirty (30) days of his receipt of the notice of appeal, submit a responsive written submission to the National Secretary and the opposing party which responsive

submission shall contain such materials as it deems appropriate and relevant to a fair consideration of the appeal by the National Board of Trustees. In cases in which the responding party is a state or subordinate lodge, such lodge shall submit fifty (50) copies of its responsive submission to the National Secretary. In cases in which the party opposing the appeal is an individual member, he shall submit one (1) copy of his responsive submission to the National Secretary.

## **ARTICLE XX. Political Endorsements**

### **Section 1. Establishment of Committee**

- A. The Lodge shall have a Political Action Committee. This committee shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas concerning political action committees; and where not governed by state law, this section will govern its actions.
- B. A special account will be established to hold funds to be used only for political purposes. These funds will not be tainted and will be designated as such prior to receiving.

### **Section 2. Purpose of Committee**

- A. The purpose of the Political Action Committee (PAC) is to promote education of the citizens toward candidates that are sympathetic to police officers and to support candidates that support appropriate legislation that improves police officers' interests.
- B. This committee will be chosen by the President.
- C. All voting to endorse candidates will be done by the general membership on the Association's website or any "app" associated with the website and last a total of 48 hours (2 days). At the completion of voting all results will be publicly posted.

## **ARTICLE XXI. Amendments**

### **Section 1.**

Proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Association will be submitted to the Secretary, who will present the amendment(s) to the Bylaw Committee. The Bylaws Committee will review all proposed amendment(s) and will present them to the Board of Directors.

### **Section 2.**

The Board will consider each amendment and recommendation submitted by the Bylaws Committee. The Board will then place the proposed amendment(s) on a ballot for a vote by the membership. The Board will submit its recommendation for approval or rejection of the proposed amendment(s).

### **Section 3.**

A majority vote is required for passage of an amendment to the Bylaws and are effective immediately at the conclusion of voting.

## **ARTICLE XXII. Official Order of Business**

### **Section 1.**

The Order of Business shall be:

1. Roll call of officers
2. Reading of the minutes from last regular meeting and any special meeting
3. Acceptance of new applications for membership
4. Membership committee report and previous applications for membership
5. Officer's report
6. Reports to committee
7. Bills
8. Communications
9. Reports on members sick or in distress
10. Unfinished business
11. New business
12. Good of the Order
13. Election of officers
14. Installation of officers
15. Adjournment

## **ARTICLE XXIV. Dues and Assessment**

### **Section 1.**

Members shall pay dues in the amounts listed below. Dues will be paid at the beginning of each month. Members will be considered in arrears if their dues are not paid by the next general meeting following the month they did not pay dues.

### **Section 2. Schedule of Dues Payments**

- A. Active members with full legal/labor defense will pay \$38.00 per month
- B. Associate Members with no legal coverage will pay \$5.00 per month.
- C. Honorary members pay no dues.

### **Section 3.**

Active members who retire due to a disability sustained in the performance of their duties as a law enforcement officer shall be exempt from paying dues in this lodge.

### **Section 4.**

Members of this lodge who become delinquent in the payment of their dues beyond 90 days (3 months in arrears) shall be subject to disciplinary action deemed necessary by the Board of Trustees including loss of benefits and/or suspension from the lodge in accordance these Bylaws. A member suspended for non-payment of dues may be reinstated to a "member in good standing" with the payment of all past dues as well as prepayment of dues for the remainder of the fiscal year or by action by the Board of Directors.



**Section 5.**

Said dues shall be deposited in an interest bearing account authorized by the Board.