

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 3471
Modesto, CA 95353-3471**

(AMENDED November 17, 2011)

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be the "Stanislaus County Peace Officers Association."

ARTICLE II

This association is formed for the purpose of:

1. Encouraging adherence to high professional standards of conduct by all peace officers;
2. Promoting and encouraging cooperation and coordination between the members and agencies concerned in the prevention of crime and the enforcement of laws in Stanislaus County;
3. Promoting good fellowship and closer friendship among peace officers of Stanislaus County; and
4. Promoting public support and recognition of law enforcement in Stanislaus County through benevolent activities.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Members

Any person employed by a public agency engaged in any manner with the enforcement of law in Stanislaus County shall be eligible for membership in this association and shall become a member upon paying the annual dues fixed by the board of directors.

Any person retired from a public agency engaged in any manner with the enforcement of law who has served at least five (5) years in this capacity in Stanislaus County and who resides in Stanislaus County shall be eligible for membership in this association upon paying the annual dues.

Section 2: Honorary Members

Any person upon whom this association may desire to confer special distinction may become an honorary member upon election by the membership. The name of such person shall be submitted to the board of directors for consideration. The board of directors will make a recommendation to the membership at the next regular meeting. Election to membership will be by the majority vote of the membership present.

Section 3: Life Members

A life membership in the Stanislaus County Peace Officers Association maybe awarded, upon retirement, to any member who during his/her preceding five (5) years has been current in dues, has served at least five years (5) years in this county in any manner with enforcement of the law and who has completed twenty (20) years of service connected with the enforcement of the law.

The twenty (20) years of service required under this section maybe waived for any member who retires or is forced to retire due to illness or injury.

The member shall submit an application to the board of directors for life membership three (3) months prior to retirement. The board shall review the application for eligibility and approve or deny the request by majority vote. The secretary shall notify the applicant of the results.

Section 4: Loss of membership

Any member, honorary member, or life member may suffer the loss of membership upon conviction of any felony offense. Any member, honorary member, or life member who by word and/or deed, clearly brings disrespect upon the association or opposes the objectives of the association as set forth in Article II, may suffer loss of membership.

Any charges against a member, honorary member, or life member shall be reviewed by the board of directors who, by majority vote, shall make a recommendation to the membership at the next regular meeting. A member, honorary member, or life member shall suffer loss of membership upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members present.

**ARTICLE IV
MEETINGS OF MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: Meetings

Meetings shall be held monthly, except July, August and September, at times and places to be determined by the host agency.

Section 2: Schedule

A monthly schedule of hosting agencies shall be approved by the board of directors at each February board meeting. Each hosting agency shall be notified by the secretary by March 1.

Section 3: Special Meetings

Special meetings of the association may be called by the president or by a majority of the board of directors. Written, electronic, or telephonic notice must be given to the membership at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE V QUORUM

At all regular meetings of the association, those members present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

At any special meeting, one-third (1/3) of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

A majority vote shall decide all issues of business, except changes in the By-Laws and loss of membership issues, which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present.

ARTICLE VI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The business of this association shall be conducted by a board of directors, composed as follows: President, President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, the immediate Past President, and six (6) directors.

The board of directors shall meet once each month prior to the regularly scheduled meeting of the membership.

Special board meetings may be called by the president or by four (4) members of the board of directors. Written, electronic, or telephonic notice must be given to each board member at least seven (7) days in advance of the special meeting.

Regular business may be done by written, electronic, or telephonic communication. The phone numbers and e-mail addresses of the board of directors will be posted on the association's website.

All members of the board of directors shall have equal voting rights.

At all board of directors meetings, six (6) members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A simple majority shall decide all issues not otherwise specified by these By-Laws.

Board of directors shall serve without compensation.

ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF OFFICES

Section 1: President

The president is the chairman of the board of directors. He/she shall preside at all meetings of the association. The president shall be the chief executive officer and shall, subject to control of the board of directors, have general supervision, direction and control of the business of the association. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. He/she shall have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors or By-Laws.

The president shall appoint from the membership, a sergeant at arms. The sergeant at arms shall have the duty to keep order, collect fines, see that the flag of our nation is properly displayed at all regular meetings, and any other duties assigned to him/her by the president.

The president may appoint a member or non-member to act as chaplain for the association in any and all functions of the association.

Section 2: President Elect

In the absence or disability of the president, the president elect shall perform all 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. The president elect shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as from time to time may be prescribed for him/her by the board of directors or By-Laws.

Section 3: Secretary

The secretary shall record and publish the minutes of the meetings of the association and of the board of directors.

The secretary shall be responsible for all official correspondence of the association.

The secretary shall notify the directors of all board meetings and shall notify all members of all monthly and special meetings.

The secretary shall keep the seal of the association in safe custody and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors or By-Laws.

Section 4: Treasurer

The treasurer shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of the association, including accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts and disbursements.

The treasurer shall deposit all monies and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the association with such depositories as may be designated by the board of directors. He/she shall disburse the funds of the association as may be ordered by the board of directors and shall render to the president and directors, whenever requested, an account of all transactions and of the financial

condition of the association.

The treasurer shall establish an account, not to exceed an amount to be set by the board of directors at the February board meeting, which will be used for normal business transactions on his/her signature. All other monies and/or securities shall be with prior approval of the board of directors and shall require the signature of the president or president elect and the treasurer.

The treasurer shall be responsible for filing such tax forms as prescribed by law.

The treasurer shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors or By-Laws.

Section 5: Immediate Past President

The immediate past president shall act in an advisory capacity to the president and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors or By-Laws.

Section 6: Directors

The directors shall serve as chair on such committees as designated by the president.

The directors shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors or By-Laws.

**ARTICLE VIII
ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE**

Section 1: Nominations

At each November meeting of the association, nominations for the association officers and directors whose term is expiring will be made. Nominations shall be accepted up until the start of the December meeting.

Section 2: Election

The secretary shall prepare ballots for the December meeting. Each member in attendance shall be issued a ballot.

The election will be by secret ballot at the December meeting. The person receiving the most votes for the office shall be elected.

Section 3: Term of Office

A president elect shall be elected each December, to begin their term as president elect in January. The president elect shall serve as president elect for their initial year, president for their second year, and as the immediate past president for their last year of their term.

In case the president elect is incapacitated or unable to become president, a president shall be elected by the membership at the December meeting.

The secretary and treasurer shall serve two-year terms. The secretary shall be elected in even years and the treasurer shall be elected in odd years.

Director shall hold office for a period of two (2) years from the first meeting in January after they are elected to the first meeting in January of the second year following. Three (3) directors shall be elected each year.

Section 4: Removal from Office

An officer or member of the board of directors may be removed for malfeasance or nonfeasance of office upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the board of directors. The vote may be appealed to the membership by the officer or director. The membership may, at any regular meeting, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present, vote any officer or director out of office.

**ARTICLE IX
VACANCIES**

Section 1: President

In the event a vacancy occurs in the presidency during the years, the president elect shall assume the position of the president and carry out his/her duties for the remainder of the un-expired term.

Section 2: Officers

In the event a vacancy occurs during the year in any other office, the un-expired term for the same shall be filled by appointment from remaining directors by the president with the approval of the board of directors.

Section 3: Directors

In the event a vacancy occurs during the term of office of a director, the remaining directors shall appoint a member to serve the remaining term.

**ARTICLE X
DUES**

Any person qualified under these By-Laws shall become a member upon the payment of the annual dues and shall not be entitled to vote until such time as the dues are paid.

The annual dues for members shall be due and payable at the meeting of the association in January of each year. The dues shall be set by the board of directors for each year at the November meeting of the board. The membership shall review and vote on any increases in the dues at the December

general meeting. The dues shall be considered delinquent on February 1. A penalty assessment may be set by the board for late payment of dues.

Honorary members shall not be required to pay dues, but shall be entitled to participate in any of the activities of the association, except the privilege of voting.

Life members shall not be required to pay dues, but shall be entitled to participate in any of the activities of the association, including the right to hold office and the privilege of voting.

ARTICLE XI FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

The funds of the association may be invested as the board of directors in its sole discretion may deem desirable, and which are permitted to organizations exempt from federal income taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The board of directors is empowered to provide disbursement of funds to the widow or widower of a law enforcement member who is killed while on duty as a law enforcement officer (as defined in Penal Code section 830).

The amount of the disbursement will be \$5,000 and will be provided in cash or other instrument that will provide for the immediate needs of the member's family. In the event of the death of multiple association members, the board of directors will ensure a benefit can be disbursed without bankrupting the fund. The board of directors will determine a percentage of the fund to be equally distributed between members' families leaving at least 20% of the original amount remaining in the fund.

ARTICLE XII COMMITTEES

Section I: Appointment

The president shall have the power to appoint such committees as he/she may deem necessary for carrying out the purposes of the association and shall be ex-officio a member of all committees.

Section 2: Duties

Each committee shall transact such business as is delegated to it by the president.

The chair of each committee shall report any activities of the committee, in person or in writing, at the regularly scheduled board meeting.

ARTICLE XIII ORDER OF BUSINESS

The following order of business shall be followed unless circumstances make it inconvenient to do so:

- a. Read minutes of previous meeting;
- b. Report of treasurer;
- c. Report of officers;
- d. Report of committees;
- e. Old business;
- f. New business;
- g. Program or entertainment; and
- h. Adjournment.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members of the association in attendance at any regular meeting of the association or at any special meeting called for that purpose. Any meetings, regular or special, at which amendments are to be considered, shall be announced at least two (2) weeks in advance. Said amendment must be plainly announced at least two (2) weeks in advance. Said amendments must be plainly stated in the announcement for the meeting at which they are to be considered.

AMENDED October 19, 1984
AMENDED October 21, 1993
AMENDED June 3, 2002
AMENDED November 17, 2011